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David's Max in 1780 by G. Riley, Ludgate Street.

THE
HISTORICAL
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BIOGRAPHICAL VADE-MECUM.
SIX VOLUMES.

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- I. The HEATHEN MYTHOLOGY.
- II. ANCIENT HISTORY.
- III. The ROMAN HISTORY.
- IV. The HISTORY of ENGLAND.
- V. GEOGRAPHY.
- VI. NATURAL HISTORY.

THE WHOLE FORMING A
MORAL and COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM
OF
HISTORICAL INFORMATION,
FOR THE
Amusement and Instruction of the young Nobility
of both Sexes.

BATH: PRINTED BY S. HAZARD;
FOR G. RILEY, STATIONER, LUDGATE-STREET,
LONDON.—1790.

29



A
BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY
OF THE
ROMAN EMPIRE;
From its FOUNDATION,
TO THE
FINAL OVERTHROW
OF THAT ONCE
Great and memorable COMMONWEALTH.

"OF all Ancient Histories, the ROMAN is the most
"Interesting and Instructive. It likewise spurs us
"on more than any other to virtuous Actions."

CHESTERFIELD.

BATH: PRINTED BY S. HAZARD;
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PREFACE.

P R E F A C E.

IN a history, like that of the Romans, which displays more the glory and brilliancy of character than a regular detail of events only to be given where the government is systematic; we thought biography was best calculated to convey an account of this distinguished people. There being so few reigns, and so many revolutions in the Roman History, was another reason for adopting the mode of ranging the historical facts under the heads of those individuals to whom they most referred, or who had the greatest concern in them. To **PLUTARCH** and **SUETONIUS** we are equally indebted for the authority

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of

of a considerable part of what we here relate, as well as for their sanction of the form we have chosen. Therefore we flatter ourselves by having thus directed the attention of our readers to the many illustrious soldiers, citizens, and statesmen, with which the Roman state abounded; that the facts related under each will not only more easily and deeply impress the memory—but illustrate those classical and learned works that make, in every part of them, these distinguished characters the subject of their praise or comment.

IN this brief system of biography we have taken the greatest care to trace the revolutions of the government with perspicuity; and the chronology of the events with accuracy.

IN a work of so limited a nature, and where so many circumstances were indispensibly necessary to relate, we have always preferred giving facts to laboured reflections. But not to render our work so uninteresting.

interesting as it would have been, had it contained no opinion, sentiment, or reflection; we have given each of these whenever the circumstance required it—altho' we have confined them to a single expression, lest we should trespass on matter more necessary for the information of our readers.

THE revolutions that are particularly traced in this biography are :

- I. THE establishment and destruction of the regal state, which began with ROMULUS, B. C. 753. and ended with TARQUIN, B. C. 538.
 - II. THE Consulship, or Republican Government, which continued without any alteration from B. C. 508, until the first dictator was chosen, B. C. 493.
 - III. THE Dictatorship, which continued the chief authority, with some few intermissions, from
- B 2B. C.

B. C. 493, until the Decemviri were chosen to form a body of laws for the common-wealth, B. C. 451.

IV. THE Decemviri, who continued their power contrary to the first institution, until their intolerable tyranny caused their power to be destroyed, B. C. 450.

V. The Supreme Power, which begun with JULIUS CÆSAR, B. C. 59, and ended with his assassination, B. C. 44.

VI. THE Imperial Power, which begun with AUGUSTUS, B. C. 27, and ended with AUGUSTULUS, A. D. 476.

As the Roman money is frequently mentioned in all histories that relate to this people, we have annexed a short account of the specie, with its sterling value.

ROMAN

ROMAN HISTORY.

THE REGAL GOVERNMENT.

R O M U L U S.



ROMULUS was the first king of the Romans. He was the son of RHEA SILVIA, and supposed to have been, with his twin-brother, REMUS, begotten by MARS. He and his brother were no sooner born, than, in compliance with the order of his mother's

uncle AMULIUS, they were put into a wooden cradle and thrown into the Tyber. Being found on the banks, they were nursed by a shepherd's wife whose name was LUPA, (wolf) from whence the fable arose of their being suckled by a wolf. But others, more probably, conceive they might have derived their nourishment from goats, as they were kept by the Alban-shepherds. Arriving at age, the knowledge of their birth, and the cause of their banishment, they killed their cruel great-uncle AMULIUS. Having re-established NUMITOR, the father of their mother, on the throne of Alba, about two years afterward they built the city of Rome, where REMUS was slain by one of the workmen, for having, in derision, leaped one of the ditches.

ROMULUS was immediately proclaimed king of the new city. He began his reign with a considerable battle he gained over the Ceninians, Antemnates, and Crustumenians, after having kill'd their general with

his

H I S T O R Y.

his own hand. He then entered Rome in a chariot drawn by four horses, with all the prisoners of war marching before him; whom he afterwards restored to liberty. Having, by stratagem, stolen the Sabine wives, and virgins, in order to obtain a popularity for his new city, he had to maintain a long and cruel war with this people. During their contests, the Sabines possessed themselves of the capitol, by the treachery, avarice, and vanity of *TARPEIA*, who opened the gates on condition of receiving their golden bracelets. She was, however, crushed to death with their bucklers. Peace was at last restored, by the intercession of the Roman wives; and Rome was equally governed by the Romans and the Sabines, under the command of *TACIUS* and *ROMULUS*: the latter having reigned thirty-eight years, was supposed to have been murdered by the senators, A. M. 3301.

As a founder of an empire, which became the terror and admiration of the world, wants not the addition

tion of the marvelous to heighten his fame, ROMULUS need not boast of owing his birth to MARS, the god of war, nor of having been suckled by a wolf. The waves of the Tyber having brought his cradle to the cottages of shepherds, among whom he preserved the heart of a hero, were more merciful than the tyrant who had devoted him and his brother to their fury. With this advantage alone he dethroned his persecutor AMULUS, and replaced the crown on the head of his grandfather NUMITOR. He built Rome, and sowed the seeds of true heroism and exalted policy, in the base and ferocious minds of his profligate followers; for which, the cruel senate treacherously murdered him.



TULLUS

TULLUS HOSTILIUS.



TULLUS HOSTILIUS reigned the third in Rome.

He was grand-son to **TULLUS HOSTILIUS**, who was killed endeavouring to retake the Capitol. Being distinguished by his heroism, he was elected to the regal government. He first taught the romans military discipline. His moderation was such that he only reserved to himself that part of regal property which was sufficient to support him as a private individual: the surplus he distributed among the ordinary ranks of the people.

In

In his reign happened the memorable combat between the Horatii and Curiatii, which terminated the reign of ALBA. The only brother of the Horatii remaining, returned victor to Rome, and killed his sister, CAMILLA, for weeping for the loss of her lover, whom he slew among the Curiatii. TULLUS immediately caused Alba to be destroyed—and the inhabitants, with their king, METIUS SUFFETIUS, to be brought to Rome. This king of the Albans forming a conspiracy to make himself master of Rome, was tied to four horses and torn to pieces. TULLUS greatly enfeebled this province of the Latins, of which Alba was the chief city. He obtained great conquests over the Fidanates, inhabitants of Fidenda, a city in Latium.

HAVING thus increased the dominion and consequence of the Romans by his brave and enterprising spirit, he, and his whole family, were destroyed by lightning, which consumed his palace.

He died in the thirty-third year of his age, A. M.
3414. A. R. 114.

HAVING

TULLUS HOSTILIUS was distinguished for his temperance, bravery, and generosity. His wars were undertaken more to increase the glory and territory of his kingdom, than to indulge a wanton appetite for slaughter and destruction. It was this noble disposition which caused him to accede to the proposal of deciding the contest between Rome and Alba by three warriors chosen from each city. Thus was the destruction of the inhabitants of both cities averted. But deciding the quarrel in this manner was not more humane than politic. Cities contending for power have not such a waste of human nature to sport with as nations have. TULLUS, therefore, wisely considered that as Rome was in its infancy of consequence, it was risking the existence to expose the Romans to the destruction of wars that could otherwise be determined by single combat, or by the contest of a few individuals. His having transferred the kingdom of Alba to Rome evinced that he was sensible the strength and protection of it depended on its increase of population.

ANCUS

ANCUS MARTIUS.



ANCUS MARTIUS, the fourth king of Rome, was the son of POMPILIA, daughter of NUMA POMPILIUS, whom he greatly resembled in his piety and justice.

HE inclosed the mount Avontine and the Jamiculum within the city, which he encircled with new walls. He laid the foundation of the city Ostia, fo

so called from its being erected at the mouth of the Tyber, over which he caused a bridge to be built. He commenced a war with the Latins whom he defeated in several battles. Thefts, and other disorders increasing in Rome, caused him to build the first prison that was known in that city. He sheltered LUESEMAN afterwards TARQUINIUS PRISCUS, who had fled from the persecution of CYPSELUS, king of Corinth. ANCUS conceived such a regard for this Grecian parasite that he made him the guardian of his two sons.

ANCUS employed the latter part of his reign in improving the city, and enriching his subjects. He chose LUESEMAN one of his senators. This stranger, who now assumed the name of LUCIUS TARQUINIUS, being as hardy in war as he was prudent in counsel, was equally beloved by the king and people. ANCUS having subdued the Latins, &c. ruined their designs, broken their forces, and obliged them to sue for peace, the Roman dominions were now increased considerably
more

more than when **ANCUS** came to the throne. A great part of **Hetruri** he took from the **Vejentes**; and he obtained, likewise, a considerable portion of authority among the **Latins**.

ANCUS not only performed great acts abroad—but also exerted himself in embellishing and improving the city itself. A warrior abroad, and a statesman at home, he cultivated every means of accommodating the people when it was equal pleasure to him to contribute to their glory, happiness, and prosperity.

HAVING reigned twenty-four years with the greatest honor to himself and advantage to his subjects, he died amidst the lamentations of a people who equally loved, admired, and revered his character.

TACIUS, the father of **HERSILLIA**, king of the **Sabines**, having refused the request of **ROMULUS** and of his followers, who desired to take wives among his subjects

subjects, imprudently fell into the snares of revenge. Attracted by the pageantry of solemn games, the whole nation trusted themselves into the hands of the Romans, who tearing all the young damsels from the arms of their parents, forcibly accomplished their intended nuptials. Though she fell to the share of the new monarch, she sincerely partook the grief of her companions, and the painful conflict which the ensuing war occasioned between the duties of consorts and daughters. At last, regardless of life, she led them on betwixt the two armies of the equally dear warriors, who struck at the fight, and moved by her entreaties, laid down their arms, and by a happy union immortalized her courage and piety.

A. M. 3205.



NUMA

 NUMA POMPILIUS.


NUMA POMPILIUS was the second king of the Romans. Being born at Cures he was a Sabine. He was chosen king in consequence of his own merit and the agreement made between the Romans and the Sabines to elect out of the one tribe a king to govern the other. Being invested with regal dignity, he instituted sacrifices, ceremonies, pontiffs, augurs, and salian priests, in order to shew that nothing was more indispensable

penfible in a ftate than religion and juftice. He inftituted likewise, the order of veftal virgins, and divided the year into twelve months. To give more authority to thefe wife regulations, he feigned that they were dictated to him by the nymph *ÆGERIA*, whom he faid had appeared to him. He built the temple of *Janus*, and that which he caufed to be dedicated to the goddefs *VESTA*. The former was ordered to be fhut in peace and open in war. The veftal virgins he caufed to be choſen at the age of four or five years from the nobleſt families of Rome, as prieſteſſes of *veſta*. Their employment he ordered ſhould be that of keeping the holy fire perpetually burning on the altar in commemoration of the divinity they adored. If by their neglect, the fire was extinguifhed for want of fuel, they were interred alive. This puniſhment he ordered likewise to be inflicted on them if they ſuffered any violation of their chaſtity. Having thus eſtabliſhed the practice of virtue, juſtice, and religion in his kingdom,

dom, he died at the advanced age of eighty years, in the forty-third of his reign, A. M. 3383. A. R. 83.

He had four sons, of whom none succeeded him in the kingdom. They, however, were the origin of four illustrious families in Rome.

He had one daughter whose name was **POMPILIA**. She was married to **MARTIUS** a Sabine nobleman.

His successor was **TULLUS HOSTILIUS**.

From the quiet harbour of contemplation, he was obliged to launch into the tempestuous sea of government, and reluctantly submitted to his fate. The untimely death of his predecessor **ROMULUS**, having shewn him that virtue is not sufficient to rule mankind, he enforced its power by religious fear; and though he built on the ground of superstition, happily his edifice lasted for many ages. The minute ceremonies of a
new

new worship, by engaging the attention of the Romans, insensibly led them on to the habit of reciprocal duties ; the solemnity of an oath, the terror of an eternal punishment denounced to perjury, by awing them into justice, brought their power to the highest period of glory. His dictates were thought supernatural ; the peace and prosperity of his long reign miraculous. He was called the second founder of Rome, and well deserved that title, since pious principles are the firmest basis of society.



TARQUININUS.

TARQUINIUS PRISCUS.



TARQUINIUS PRISCUS was a Corinthian, and son to a rich merchant whose name was DEMARATUS. Flying from the tyranny of CYPSELLUS, he sought his fortune in Rome. On his journey, an eagle is said to have taken off his bonnet and replaced it again on his head. RANAQUIL, his wife, who pretended to the act of divination, hailed this as an happy omen of his
regal

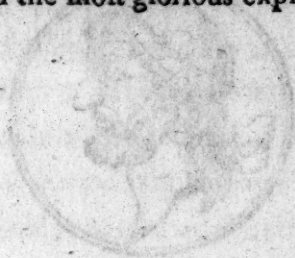
regal power. He changed his name from LUCUMON to TARQUIN, in remembrance of the shelter he first found in the city of Tarquinii in Hetruria. ANEUS MARTIUS was no sooner dead, than he possessed himself of the government. He then proceeded to enlarge the authority of the senate by adding to it a hundred more members. He likewise encreased the number of knights to 300 more—and ordered the fasces, a bundle of rods with an axe in the middle of them, to be carried before the magistracy. His next regulations were to alter the stuff and fashion of the robes worn by the kings and augurs. He caused the chairs of the senators to be made of ivory. The knights who did not serve in the wars, he ordered to wear gold rings on their fingers. The children of illustrious families he caused to be distinguished by wearing long robes bordered with purple. He built the circus where the combats of wild-beasts and gladiators were exhibited. In his reign the augurs obtained the greatest authority. No enterprize was undertaken without their consultation.

Having possessed himself of most of the Latium cities, he extinguished the Latin name throughout Italy.

THE two children of ANEUS MARTIUS who were left to his protection, whose persons he had abandoned, and whose rights he had usurped, bribed two peasants to slay him, which was effected in the 38th year of his reign and the 84th of his age. He left two children whom he consigned to the care of SERVIUS TULLIUS.

TARQUIN PRISCUS was an insinuating parasite, a treacherous friend, and a wanton tyrant. Not having a mind capacious enough to conceive great designs, he employed himself in petty innovations. He was remarkably superstitious, which was of considerable service in forming the minds of the people to pay that regard to religion which was necessary in the Roman government. However, TARQUIN'S superstition was not the enthusiasm of a zealous piety: it was rather the weakness

weakness of a mind enfeebled by its own terrors. But whatever might be the cause, it produced the most beneficial effect in forming the Roman bravery; for on the confidence of their augur's divination they afterwards effected the most glorious exploits.



SERVIUS

SERVIUS TULLIUS.



SERVIUS TULLIUS was the sixth king. He was son to the prince of Cornicula, a small city which TARQUIN had taken from the Latins. His father being killed at Corinth, his mother who was then pregnant with him came to Rome. TANAQUIL conceiving a fondness for her took her into the palace where she was delivered of SERVIUS. It is said that a lambent flame played about his head for the space of an hour

hour as he lay in the cradle soon after his birth, without doing him the least injury. **TANAQUIL** immediately divined that he would possess the kingdom. She accordingly took the greatest care of his education and gave him her daughter in marriage. **SERVIVS** being thus become the son-in-law of **TARQUIN**, caused the people more readily to invest him with the regal authority on the demise of this usurper. Being possessed of the government, he vanquished the Tuscans and the Vejeutes, considerably augmented the city of Rome, to which he added the Quirinal, Viminal, and Equiline hills: the whole he encompassed with walls and ditches. He was the first who caused the number of the Roman citizens to be taken, and the value of their estates in order to levy a tax on each, proportionate to his income. This was done every five years and was called a *Lustrum*. He caused his two daughters, whose names were **TULLIA**, to marry the two **TARQUINS**, the grandsons of **TARQUINIUS PRISCUS**, in order to unite the interest so as to secure more effectually his possession

sion of the throne against the designs and pretensions of those he had made his sons-in-law. The elder TARQUIN not being pleased with the wife allotted him, entered into a criminal connection with the wife of his brother. The result was, that the younger TARQUIN was poisoned by the younger sister, and the elder sister murdered likewise by the elder TARQUIN. This being done, he ordered the soldiers to murder SERVIUS, of whose throne he had just before taken possession. TULLIA, going to congratulate the usurper on his success, ordered her charioteer to drive over the bleeding body of her father, saying, "The way to a throne cannot be too short."

SERVIUS TULLIUS was assassinated in the forty-fourth year of his reign, A. M. 3521. A. R. 221.

ALTHOUGH this hero, the offspring of a bond-woman, was raised to the throne by queen TANAQUIL, who took care of his youth and united him to her daughter,

daughter, he reigned with no less glory than TULUS HOSTILIUS, ANCUS MARTIUS, and TARQUINIUS PRISCUS, his predecessors, and the worthy successors of ROMULUS and NUMA. In order to establish permanently the Roman happiness, he resolved to restore to the wise patricians the authority which had been taken from them; and he accomplished his design without offending the plebeian order. The love of his country would have even carried him further; he meditated on substituting a republican government to the regal power; when TARQUINIUS the Proud, taking away his life, robbed him of the glory that attends those who sacrifice ambition to patriotism, and self-interest to the public welfare.



TARQUINIUS

TARQUINIUS SUPERBUS.



TARQUINIUS SUPERBUS, the seventh king of Rome, was the grandson of TARQUINIUS PRISCUS. He had no sooner possessed himself of the kingdom by causing SERVIUS to be assassinated, than he behaved to his subjects with the greatest cruelty and arrogance. He was surnamed SUPERBUS from his intolerable pride. He despised the authority of the senate, and frequently banished, imprisoned, or even put to death its members, on the most vague reports and trifling accusations.

tions. He defeated the Volcians by force, and the Gabii by treachery. By his order, his son **SEXTUS** beheaded the principal of the Gabians, and imprisoned others. Having exercised these wanton cruelties some time, he lost his kingdom by the hatred of the people to him and his government, and a crime which his son **SEXTUS** committed on the person and chastity of **LUCRETIA**, the wife of **COLLATINUS**. **LUCRETIA**, being dishonored, stabbed herself in the presence of her husband, her brother **LUCRITIUS**, and her cousin **BRUTUS**. **BRUTUS** drew the dagger from the wound and swore, by her chaste blood, that he would drive **TARQUIN** and all his family out of Rome. **TARQUIN** having caused the father and brother of **BRUTUS**, among other senators, to be murdered, excited still more the vengeance preparing against him. This tyrant perceiving the storm that was ready to burst on him with inevitable ruin, evaded its threatenings by retiring into Tuscany, where he exerted, but in vain, every effort to re-instate

state himself in his abdicated throne. He died in Tuscany, in the twenty-fourth year of his reign, A. M. 3546, A. R. 245.

An impious woman under the name of TULLIA, was his associate in crimes. These unnatural connections could not last; their two atrocious souls, panting for each other, cemented the horrid sympathy with the blood of their respective consorts, and joined their hands and hearts in the bond of vice. By the instigation of this fury, TARQUIN murdered her father, over whose mangled corpse she drove her chariot, with so undaunted an impiety, that even TARQUINIUS himself recoiled at it. Their children followed their example, for, the profligacy of his son SEXTUS caused the ruin, or rather, filled the measure of his own iniquities. The throne from which TARQUIN was cast partook of his infamy; for ever since Rome abhorred the name of king, and trampled on the regal dignity.

LUCRETIA.

LUCRETIA.



THE fame of LUCRETIA being fo great, her chaffity fo exemplary, and her fate proving the deftruction of the regal power and the eftablifhment of the Roman liberties ; her character is too interefling to omit giving a brief account of it in this compendium. Her husband, COLLATINUS, being at the fiefge of Ardea, praifed her virtues fo much that he faid fhe excelled all other women in beauty, pradence, and chaffity.

This

This being conceived as a challenge against the virtues of the other officers wives, it was agreed a party of them should return privately to Rome, and whose wife was found the best employed should have the preference of character. They had no sooner arrived than they found the daughters-in-law of the king all employed in feasting and diversions; while they found LUCRETIA with her maids, spinning and working of wool. SEXTUS, who was of the company, was so captivated with her beauty, that, although he was then obliged to return with the rest, he resolved to come back as soon, and as privately as possible, to the house of COLLATINUS. He, accordingly, came one night to lodge there. LUCRETIA treated him with the greatest respect and civility in compliment to her absent husband, to whom he was nearly related. After supper he was conducted to his apartment. All the family being at rest, he stole to the chamber of LUCRETIA with his drawn sword. He awakened her by laying his left hand on her breast, and

and saying, "LUCRETIA, I am SEXTUS TARQUINIUS, if you speak a word you die." He then declared his passion and his resolution to dishonor her. Finding his threats of death ineffectual to obtain her compliance, he informed her that he would kill his own slave, lay him naked by her when she was dead, and afterwards declare, that he had thus revenged the injured honor of his kinsman, COLLATINUS. To avoid this last ignominy she consented. SEXTUS, having obtained his wishes, returned to the camp. She immediately sent for her husband, to meet her at the house of her father in Rome, where she went dressed in mourning. A great number of her friends and relations assembled before she would disclose her mind. Her husband being come, she related to him what had happened, desired he would revenge her ravaged honor, and immediately plunged a poniard into her breast, saying, "No woman shall hereafter survive her honor and say LUCRETIA was her example." Her father and her husband fell at her

feet: a mixture of fury and compassion seized the whole assembly, while her flowing blood served equally to attest her innocence, and to restore Rome to its former liberties, by the banishment of **TARQUIN**, and the destruction of the regal power.

THE extremity to which the chaste, unfortunate **LUCRETIA** was reduced, was the effect of indiscretion; for, her husband **COLLATINUS**, being challenged by his wild companions to justify the praises he lavished upon her, brought them unexpectedly to her peaceful retreat. The terror of infamy subdued her virtue, which caused her to terminate her sorrows and existence by plunging a poniard in her virtuous, but weak heart. A. D. 3442.



JUNIUS

JUNIUS BRUTUS.



JUNIUS BRUTUS, being the chief instrument of destroying the regal tyranny, and one of the first consuls in the free government, his character offers itself next to our notice. **LUCRETIA** was no sooner dead, than he drew the dagger from the wound, and, shewing it steeped in blood, to the assembly, swore by it, that he would pursue **TARQUIN** and his race to destruction, and never permit another king to reign in Rome;

D 2.

He

He then presented it to COLLATINUS, LUCRETIVS, VALERIUS, and the rest of the company, and engaged them to take the same oath. 'Till this moment he had appeared an idiot. Observing the surprise of those present at the change of his demeanor, he informed them that he had only assumed the appearance of folly and stupidity, in order to secure himself from the merciless tyranny of TARQUIN, who had sacrificed several of his relations, among other Roman senators. He then caused the gates of Rome to be closed and guarded. The corpse of LUCRETIA he next ordered to be taken to where the Comitia, the Senate, were assembled, and delivered an oration, which has always been justly distinguished for its spirit and patriotism. Such effect had this speech on the multitude that they all agreed unanimously to chase the guilty race of TARQUIN from their government, and never again submit themselves to the regal power. SPURIUS LUCRETIVS was declared the Intu-Rex until the future form of the constitution could be determined. In settling the state after

ter they had driven TARQUIN and his family from Rome, BRUTUS evinced himself as great a politician as he had before shewn himself to be a patriot. He instituted the consular power, which was wisely formed to preserve a balance between the senate and the people. He abolished all use of sceptres, crowns, and royal robes—the hateful relicts of the regal tyranny, which they had too unhappily experienced. He reserved only the name of king to be conferred on the magistrate who presided over their religion. The consulship begun A. R. 245, and A. C. 510, by BRUTUS and COLLATINUS, being invested with this power. BRUTUS finding his two sons concerned in a conspiracy against the republic, caused them to be beheaded in his sight, with the other delinquents. He lost his life fighting with ARUNS, the son of TARQUIN, whom he pierced, at the same time he was himself pierced, with a lance.

JUNIUS BRUTUS combined what is rarely seen—the most temperate policy with all the daring courage of a most invincible hero. To this management of his passions may be attributed the dexterity with which he assumed the appearance of idiotism, until the favourable moment arrived for the exercise of his distinguished faculties and virtues. From the extent of his courage and the soundness of his understanding, no man was better formed to unite the warrior and the statesman than he was in his consular dignity. Feeling himself qualified for such a combined office, might have been the reason of his dictating to the senate the propriety of establishing this authority for the chief government of the commonwealth. A. M. 3442.



LARGIUS

LARGIUS FLAVIUS.



THIS consul being the first dictator, and this office one of the most important in the Roman government, we think it proper here to relate briefly the cause of its establishment. FLAVIUS having taken Fidenæ from the Latins, so greatly enraged them, that, instigated by TARQUIN, they engaged in a most formidable conspiracy against the Romans. Great preparations were made on both sides for approaching war. But

the Romans finding the difficulty of raising an army sufficient, from the debtors of the city refusing to enlist unless all their debts were remitted, offered an exemption from all suits and processes during the continuance of the war. This offer was not accepted by the multitude: they were determined to have a perpetual remission before they would enlist in the service of a state where they suffered such oppressions as they had experienced under their merciless creditors. And as by the laws of Poplicola, no man could be forced to go to war against his will; they thought of the expedient to create a particular magistrate for a limited time, and from whom there should lie no appeal. This supreme officer was called dictator. LARGIUS FLAVIUS was the first chosen by the senate to fill this dignified and important trust, which, as it afterwards proved, was too great for any person to possess in a government that was formed for the protection of the peoples liberties. To this power JULIUS CÆSAR owed his death, and Rome her slavery and final destruction.

THUS

Thus was the consular power which had continued ten years first suspended by the dictatorship, and had the power of peace and war, to levy forces, to embody and disband them, and to act in every respect agreeable to the pleasure of the possessor, without being subject to the controul of either the senate or the people. To him all power was resigned—except that of the tribunes of the people. The dictator had twenty-four bundles of rods, and as many axes caried before him. His edict was considered as authoritative as the command of a deity. But to prevent the abuse of this office, the dictator was never to serve more than six months, or leave Italy, or ride on horseback, without leave.



SULPICIUS.

S U L P I C I U S :



SULPICIUS being the next consul of consequence, and, having saved Rome from another conspiracy instigated by TARQUIN and his son-in-law MAMILIUS OCTAVIUS, we shall relate briefly how this design was managed, and how it was rendered abortive by the vigilance and resolution of this consul. TARQUIN having endeavoured in vain to excite all the Latins to espouse his cause by making war against the Romans,

mans, he attempted to effect by treachery that which he could not by force of arms. He exerted every means of increasing the least appearance of disgust in the Romans to the most inveterate dissensions. The rich and the poor inhabitants he perpetually set at variance by his secret mercenaries, whom he had in great numbers in the city. An opportunity happened to favor his purpose: the common people being burthened with usurious exactions, and dissatisfied with this system of oppression, and the cruel manner with which the bodies of debtors were seized and treated, worse than the most menial of slaves: TARQUIN not only increased this disquietude, but caused his creatures in Rome to encourage them to revolt by giving them money in advance, and promising them more when he should be restored by their exertions to the government. This bounty and promise caused them to form a conspiracy against the commonwealth. SULPICIOUS, being timely apprized of their design, drew the chief conspirators by stratagem into the forum, where he surrounded and put them all to the sword.

SULPICIOUS

SULPICIUS lived in the æra of Rome 254. He was an excellent soldier and politician; remarkably vigilant, ready at expedients, and determined in his resolutions. Although he stained the forum with blood, it was not to gratify personal ambition—but to save the republic from a conspiracy formed to destroy its newly asserted liberties—and to consign the people again to the tyranny of **TARQUIN**. While he denied what he considered improper requests of foreign embassies, he conciliated their affections by his civility and politeness. Having thus relieved his country from the imminent danger with which it was threatened, he ended his consulship with honor to himself and service to the commonwealth. **LARGIUS FLAVIUS**, who was afterwards created the first dictator, was, according to some historians, his successor.



MENENIUS

MENENIUS.



MENENIUS and POSTHUMIUS were next chosen consuls. The Sabines once more assembled a numerous army, and marched up almost to the walls of Rome. As the consuls advanced, POSTHUMIUS fell into an ambuscade, lost many of his men, and narrowly escaped with his own life. At this discomfiture the citizens were thrown into such consternation as to cause them with all speed to seek refuge within their own walls,

walls, which they expected would every instant be attacked, if not forced by the enemy. Being agreeably disappointed in these apprehensions, they marched out again, determined to retrieve their lost credit. **POSTHUMIUS** being more immediately concerned in this redemption of honor, behaved so gallantly, that, with the brave assistance of **MENENIUS**, the Sabines would have been irreparably defeated had not the night interposed.

THE senate having decreed **MENENIUS** a full triumph, and **POSTHUMIUS**, from his ill success at the beginning, only an ovation; we embrace this place as a proper opportunity of briefly describing their difference.

IN a triumph, the general entered the city in a chariot, and was met by the senators in their robes. His dress was a robe interwoven with gold. He held a sceptre in his hand, and was crowned with laurel and myrtle,

myrtle, while the soldiers who attended the procession hail'd the hero, their conquest and their fellow-citizens with crying, "Io TRIUMPH!"

IN an ovation, the general entered the city on foot, and was met by the knights and citizens. His dress was only the *prætexta toga*, the ordinary habit of consuls and prætors. He bore no sceptre, and had only the laurel and wreath of myrtle round his temples. The soldiers cried at their entrance into the city, "O," which some say was the cause of this procession being called an ovation. But the more probable opinion is from *ovis*, a sheep being sacrificed on the occasion, instead of a number of oxen which were sacrificed at a triumph.



P. VALERIUS.

P. VALERIUS POPLICOLA.



VALERIUS POPLICOLA owed his accession to the consulship to COLLATINUS' shewing too much favor to his banished kinsman TARQUIN, and his discovering the conspiracy of the Aquilii Vitellii. TITUS and TIBERIUS formed to kill the consuls and re-instate TARQUIN. POPPLICOLA, aided by his followers, seized and dragged these conspirators to the forum. He immediately sent for VINDICIUS, a slave, who had

had first informed him of the combination, to prove their treachery to the state. This being substantiated the culprits met with that punishment their treason to the commonwealth so justly merited. **COLLATINUS** finding he had disgusted the people, withdrew from Rome, when **VALERIUS** immediately succeeded him in the consulship. He rewarded **VINDICIUS** with his freedom; divided the goods of **TARQUIN** among the people, demolished his palace, and opened the *Campus Martius*. **TARQUIN** having advanced to Rome with a considerable army of Etrurians, **VALERIUS**, attended by his brother-consul **BRUTUS**, met them with the Roman forces. A battle ensued in which **BRUTUS**, and **ARUN** the son of **TARQUIN**, fell by each other's lances. **VALERIUS**, however, after having slain 11300 and taken 5000 prisoners, defeated them, and returned in triumph to the city with more pomp and magnificence than had ever been displayed on any former conquest. Thus arose the splendid triumphs which honored the victories of the Roman consuls.

consuls, generals, and emperors. He then buried his colleague BRUTUS, with great honor, and made the funeral oration himself, which became a customary tribute to the death of all great and memorable persons. He supplied the deficiency of the senate with 164, made several laws in favor of the people, and retrenched the original power with which the consulship was invested. He established the Quæstors, or public treasuries, and appointed the temple of SATURN as the treasury. He then held an assembly to choose another consul to succeed BRUTUS. LUCRETIVS was invested with this power. The first league was made about this time with Rome and Carthage. After many successful battles with the Etrurians, Sabines, and Latins, POPLICOLA died at the end of his fourth consulship, and was buried at the public expence.

ALTHOUGH POPLICOLA employed his eloquence in defending the oppressed, and his riches in assisting the needy, he escaped the cruelty of TARQUINIUS the

Proud

Proud by the particular care of Providence, who destined him to preserve the glorious fabric of liberty. Having stopt in its progress the conspiracy made in favor of the tyrant TARQUINIUS, he opposed the unreasonable lenity, or rather the treachery of COLLATINUS, the husband of LUCRETIA, who, forgetting that the public cause was particularly his own, in the very instant that his colleague BRUTUS had sacrificed his sons, wanted to save the remainder of the conspirators. Four times honored with the consulship, he answered that distinguished confidence by making wholesome laws, and gaining repeated victories. He was surnamed PUBLICOLA, which signifies the lover of the people. A. M. 3443.



C L E L I A.



PORSENNA, king of Clusium, one of the twelve nations of Etruria, espousing the cause of **TARQUIN** who had fled to him for succor, besieged Rome. In this attack, **HOPATIUS COCLES** having, with **HERMINIUS** and **LARTIUS**, defended a bridge against the passage of the whole Etrurian army until it was broken down by his own soldiery, leaped into the river and swam, amidst darts, spears, and javelins, over to his friends.

friends. This siege being continued, to the great terror of the Romans, a considerable time, **MUCIUS SCAEVOLA** attempted in the disguise of a Tuscan, the camp of **PORSENNA**. Being arrived there, he killed the secretary instead of the king whom he had previously devoted to destruction. Being taken, he burned his right hand for the failure, which had such an effect on **PORSENNA** that he immediately made peace with the Romans, on condition of receiving twenty young men and virgins as hostages for the restoration of the Tuscan lands taken from the **Veientes**, &c. &c. Among these virgins was **CLELIA**. Being of a dauntless spirit, and disdaining the idea of captivity, she broke from her guards and conductors, and, at the head of the other virgins, swam over the **Tiber** amidst the darts of the enemy. They were no sooner arrived than they presented themselves to **POPPLICOLA**, who dreading the consequence to **Rome**, of this infringement of the treaty, sent them all back to **PORSENNA**. In their passage **TARQUIN** would have taken them and their

convoy by ambuscade, had they not been rescued by ARUNS the son of PORSENNA. Arriving in the presence of the king, they so charmed him, on their examination, with their courage, that he presented CLELIA with one of his own horses sumptuously caparisoned, and leave to select what part of the hostages she chose to return with her to Rome and freedom. Conceiving the youngest as the most unable to endure their captivity, she chose them as her companions to share with her the blessings of liberty. The Romans, to shew their gratitude to him, and their admiration of the undaunted courage which CLELIA had displayed, erected a statue to each of them. That of PORSENNA was placed near the senate-house. The statue of CLELIA was a maid on horseback, and placed in the street called the Via Sacra. The senate decreed to MUTIUS a field beyond the Tiber, which was afterwards distinguished by the name of Mutia Prata—The Mutian Meadow.

THUS

THUS ended the Etrurian war, to the great disappointment and dissatisfaction of TARQUIN. Soon after, HERMINIUS and LARTIUS who had so nobly assisted HORATIUS COCLES in defending the city, were chosen consuls.

APPIUS CLAUSUS.

ABOUT the year of the building of Rome 250, a remarkable accession happened to the Roman city. The Sabines having confederated with the Latins for the destruction of this power which they both feared and envied, APPIUSCLAUSUS, an eminent man among the Sabines for riches, valor, and consequence, used every effort to dissuade them from the danger and temerity of the enterprize. His remonstrances proved ineffectual, and his having incited their jealousy of his

being more attached to the interest of Rome than to that of his country, determined him to abandon the Sabini, and to take himself, his family, treasures, and adherents, to Rome. having retarded the preparations of the confederates as long as possible, he went to Rome with all his wealth and 5000 families of his friends and dependants. Being arrived in the city they immediately granted to them considerable portions of land, and several distinguished privileges beside their freedom. **CLAUSUS** himself was elected a senator, and his family the **Clausi**, afterwards called **Claudii**, became one of the greatest dignity in Rome. Soon after, the tribes of the Roman state were increasing from four to twenty-one. One of the four was called **Tribus Claudia** from **APPIUS CLAUDIUS**. Although this accession to the Roman consequence and popularity was so considerable, yet all historians have been so careless as never to have traced by what means or by whom this could have been effected. They have related simply the fact without discovering the persons who

who must have interested themselves in gaining such a predilection in the minds of CLAUDIUS for the Roman people and their government. For however he might have considered his personal safety was somewhat concerned, yet with so great an interest in his favor as 5000 families, he must have been assured he was totally secure. Many persons with such a party would have been induced to have possessed themselves of a government instead of abandoning their native place and exposing themselves to a voluntary exile. It is therefore evident CLAUDIUS must have received the greatest assurances from some persons in the Roman government, of himself and his friends being received with those privileges that could only be their encouragement.



CORIO LANUS.

C O R I O L A N U S.



CORIOLANUS was originally named CAIUS MARCIUS. He first signalized himself and gained considerable honor in the victory obtained by the Romans, under the dictatorship of VIRGINIUS, over the Latins at the battle near the lake Rhegillus, A. D. 257, which terminated all the wars instigated by TARQUIN for the recovery of his sovereignty. The people having obtained a share in the government by the creation

creation of the tribunes, they readily inlisted themselves to go against the Volci under POSTHUMIUS the consul. It was in this war that CORIOLANUS obtained his name, from most valiantly having been the cause of obtaining the city of Corioli. The Romans being at this siege driven back into their trenches with great disorder, CORIOLANUS bravely withstood the shock of the enemy, and drove them back into their town, where he followed them and afterwards opened the gates to the rest of the Roman army, who immediately took possession of this strong city. He would not suffer the soldiers to plunder the inhabitants. Having been afterwards the cause of gaining a complete victory over the Volsci, such was his moderation that he would receive no more than a single horse as his share of the immense booty which the Romans had thus obtained. In the time of CORIOLANUS the first census or numbering of the people was performed, and 1100000 heads were celled. About this time he recommended that the insolent power of the Tribunes should be destroyed.

This

This exasperating the people, the *Ædiles* were ordered to apprehend him—but these officers were repulsed and beaten by the young patricians who had assembled to guard him. The tribunes then decreed that he should be taken and cast down from the Tarpeian-rock. He was accordingly seized, and again rescued. The tribunes being appeased annulled their former decrees and appointed a day for his vindicating himself before the people. Being tried and banished by the sentence of the tribunes, he went to Antium among the Volsci whom he had before conquered.

BEING made a general of the Volsci against the Romans, he was cut to pieces by this people for relinquishing in favor of his countrymen those advantages he could have obtained.

VICTORIOUS over all the Roman enemies, CORIOLANUS thought himself entitled to speak freely in the senate; and joining with the generous chief of the Claudian

Claudian family, blamed the other senators for having released the populace from their debts, which were a check to their turbulent minds; but he was not aware of his rashness and danger. Condemned by the insolent tribunes to perpetual banishment, and meanly forsaken by the patricians, he retired among the Volsci, a nation whom he had almost ruined, and at the head of their remaining warriors, threatened destruction to his ungrateful country. Rome was on the point of falling a prey to his resentment, when his mother, the respectable VETURIA, followed by his wife and all the Roman matrons, entered his camp, and throwing herself at his feet, implored mercy. Filial piety melted his heart into forgiveness; and thereby recovered honorable and immortal fame. A. M. 3463.



QUINTIUS

QUINTIUS CINCINNATUS.



CINCINNATUS was elected to the consulship from the plough. Being invested with the fasces and the other insignia of this species of magistracy, he was desired to proceed to Rome. He answered with tears, "Then for this year my poor little field must remain unfown, and we shall be in danger of want." He took an affectionate leave of his wife and departed for his government. He immediately, by address and by threats,

threats, restrained the abused power of the tribunes. Such was the wisdom and rectitude of his actions, that the commons declared new laws were unnecessary. Having re-instated the city in peace and prosperity, and finished his consulship, he, to the concern of the whole senate, returned to his little cottage and his former laborious course of life. The Roman army being in great danger of destruction by the *Æqui* and *Volsci*, the city were obliged to choose another dictator, to which office *CINCINNATUS* was next elected. He was again found at the plough. Perceiving the twenty-four axes, the purple robes, the horses, and the other insignia, he exclaimed with great concern, "This year's crop will also be lost, and my poor family must be starved." He had no sooner entered the city than he appeased the consternation of the inhabitants, forced *CLÆLIUS* the general of the enemy into his entrenchments, and afterwards obliged the whole army to surrender at discretion. He ordered the choicest of the plunder to be taken to Rome, and the rest

rest to be distributed equally among his victorious soldiers. He entered the city with a more magnificent triumph than any who had preceded him. Having thus defeated a powerful army and plundered a fortified city within fourteen days after his creation, he resigned his office and retired once more to his cottage, refusing all the sumptuous offers the senate made to enrich and ennoble him.—Such was the moderation of the Roman character at this period of their history.

POVERTY depressed not the noble mind of CINCINATUS; grandeur corrupted not his virtuous heart. He, many times, quitted the plough, to which the injustice of factions had reduced him to take the helm of government; but always returned with a new joy to his rural habitation. Invested with the arbitrary power of dictator, he remained unprejudiced by the resentment of past injuries, unbiaſſed by party opinions. His very name spread terror among the enemies of Rome; his serene looks beamed peace within its walls.

Though

Though he could not help fighting, when, to serve his country, he was obliged to leave his little farm uncultivated, he constantly refused to be enriched by the spoils of the conquered nations. In short, he had the glory to be wanted in all public necessities, and the satisfaction of wanting none but himself, which will be the happy lot of every man, who, endowed with superior abilities, has wisdom to keep himself independent. A. M. 3470.



SICCIUS DENTATUS.



THIS distinguished Roman was as admirable in his form as his courage. At the age of fifty-eight he had served his country forty years in war; had been an officer thirty years, and served the offices of centurion and tribune. He fought 120 battles, in which by his single arm, he saved many lives, recovered several standards, gained 14 civic crowns, 3 mural crowns, 8 golden crowns, 83 golden chains, 60 golden bracelets,

bracelets, 18 spears, and 23 horse-trappings. He killed 9 enemies in single combat, and had 45 wounds all in the front of his body; twelve of which he received the day the capitol was recovered. Having effected these services he complained that neither he, nor his fellow-sufferers had received the least portion of reward. The lands they had taken by their swords were bestowed on those who rather deserved a disgraceful punishment than a public bounty. He was afterwards the cause of the consuls obtaining a signal victory over the Æqui, and occasioned a law to pass the Centurati Comitia—That all magistrates should have power to punish such as violated their authority. This fine was not to exceed two oxen, or thirty sheep. About this period the Decemviri were created to regulate the laws of the city. In another war against the Æqui, he accused the commanders of cowardice and inability. Appius the consul sent him as legate to the army lying at Crustumeria. He was attended by 100 men who had received private orders to murder

him. In defending himself against their assassination he killed 15 and wounded 30, the rest not daring to approach him threw darts and stones at him, by which means they effected their purpose. This horrid deed being perpetrated the soldiers grew so mutinous that the Decemviri, to appease them, caused DENTATUS to be interred with every honor his extraordinary merit and services deserved. But however, such was the discontent of the army that they determined to revolt the first opportunity: that night happened to favor their design.

THIS noble and patriotic hero thought that the military honors which he had won in 120 battles, and 45 wounds, which he had received in facing the enemy, entitled him to be heard in the common cause; but alas! his martial eloquence cost him his life, when the dissensions of Rome had forged the chains of slavery. The Romans had sent for the laws of Greece, and appointed ten men, who, under the name of Decemvirs,

cemvirs, were to collect them. They presented a code in twelve tables, which ought to be forever admired. This Roman's character was so distinguished for strength of body, military skill, and active bravery, that he was called the Roman **ACHILLES**.



VIRGINIA.



TO the sad fate of this Roman virgin the city owed the restoration of its liberties. **APPIUS**, the chief of the Decemviri, conceiving a violent passion for **VIRGINIA**, caused her to be claimed as the slave of **CLAUDIUS**, one of the clients. This dependant immediately seized the virgin, and said, that her mother being barren, had procured her from one of his slaves to whom she was a natural daughter. **VIRGINIUS**, being

ing apprized of the situation of his daughter, left the camp and proceeded to Rome. APPIUS, who had privately ordered him to be confined, was greatly surprized to see the father of the captured maid appear in the forum. This tyrant, contrary to all the pleadings and evidences that were brought to prove that VIRGINIA was the daughter of VIRGINIUS, adjudged her as the slave of CLAUDIUS in order to have the power of sacrificing her beauty and chastity to his inordinate passion. He ordered all to depart, and his creature to take possession of his slave. VIRGINIUS desired he might first speak to his daughter, which being granted, he dragged her hanging about him, and bewailing her condition, to a butcher's stall that was near him—and seizing a knife, he said, “Daughter, I will send thee to our ancestors free and unpolluted; for the merciless will suffer thee to be neither.” He then stabbed her to the heart. “With this blood! said he, APPIUS, I doom thee to certain death.” He ran through the streets with the reeking

reeking blade, and excited the populace to join in vindicating their lost liberties, and to revenge themselves of their tyrants, the Decemviri. He rode post to the army and persuaded them to revolt. The consequence was the Decemviri resigned their authority, and the form of government was restored to what it was before their creation. APPIUS and OPIUS died in prison, and the remaining eight voluntarily banished themselves.

O YE, to whom youth, beauty, and fortune seem to open the career of happiness, remember, from the fate of VIRGINIA, that the rosebud, to which a fair morning announces a glorious day, is often blasted before noon! VIRGINIA daily turned her cheerful steps towards the most celebrated school in Rome, unconscious that her modest charms had raised a guilty flame in the breast of APPIUS CLAUDIUS, the chief of the Decemviri, who had seen her in her way thither. One day, as she was attentive to the words of instruction,

a man

a man seized upon her, and dragging her before the tribunal of his vile employer, dared to claim her as his slave. VIRGINIUS, her Father, who in vain movingly asserted his sacred right, in whose arms she sought an asylum, seeing that nothing but death could save her from dishonor, stabbed her through the heart; and devoting the tyrant to the infernal gods, procured for her innocent blood, the glory of delivering her country. A. M. 3508.



MANLIUS.

M A N L I U S.



THIS noble patrician was the means of saving Rome by his signal courage. The Gauls attempting the capitol, alarmed some sacred geese that were kept near the temple of JUNO; their gabbling aroused the Romans to their danger. Manlius was the first who mounted the rampart and opposed this formidable attack by tumbling down two of the enemy, who had then scaled the walls. By this time others came to his assistance so effectually that all the rest fell victims

to

to the temerity of their daring enterprize. The next morning the neglectful watch was thrown headlong down the rock, and MANLIUS rewarded agreeable to the service he had effected. MANLIUS having obtained the surname of CAPITOLINUS became very haughty and ambitious, which disposition extended even to the desire of obtaining sovereignty. To attain this object, he ingratiated himself with the commonality by paying their debts and vilifying the nobility. CORNELIUS Cossus, being now chosen dictator, seized MANLIUS and imprisoned him. The people, however, were so displeased at this treatment of their favorite, that he soon obtained his liberty. Becoming more insolent, and filling the city with sedition, he was tried by the military tribunes directly opposite the capitol which he had before saved. Appealing to the services he had done, CAMILLUS and the other judges were obliged to remove the tribunal to the Palatine Grove, which was situated without the gates of the city. The capitol not being within view of this court, he was found guilty of treason to the government, and thrown from

from the Tarpeian-rock, the place of his highest honor and greatest infamy. Thus was Rome so jealous of her liberties that no merit could atone for any attempt of her destruction or infringement.

THINK not that the merit of a great action entitles any one to pardon for the commission of base attempts, lest that presumption should prove our ruin, as it did MANLIUS's. Such was his ambition that, not contented with the respect paid to his valor, he sought to enslave his country.



CAMILLUS

CAMILLUS.



CAMILLUS first signalized himself by taking Veii. He previously vowed that he would dedicate the tenth part of the plunder to **APOLLO** if he succeeded in this enterprize. He took it, like a second Troy, after it had been besieged ten years. Having thus subdued the rival of Rome, he had a more magnificent triumph than ordinary. His charriot was drawn by four milk-white steeds, which had ever before

fore been held sacred to the gods. No man ever enjoyed the same honor either before or after him in Rome. CAMILLUS prevented the impolitic division of the inhabitants of Rome, by sending one half to Veii. The ladies, selling their dresses or ornaments to the amount of ten talents of gold in order to contribute towards the devoted offerings to APOLLO, were rewarded with the privilege of ever after having the honor of orations at their funerals. CAMILLUS refused accepting of the city of Falerii, which he besieged, being treacherously delivered into his power. Such was his great disdain of the schoolmaster who had offered to effect this base and perfidious act, that he ordered him to be whipped back into his own town by his scholars who had attended him. The soldiers being, thus, deprived of their plunder, were disgusted, and began to plan his ruin. Opposing again the division of the city, he was accused by the tribunes of fraudulent practices. He was accordingly fined 15000 asses and banished. Rome being almost desolated by
the

the Gauls, the banished CAMILLUS forgot his wrongs in the love of his country. Being in Ardea, he persuaded the inhabitants to rise and fall upon the enemy in the night time. This was done so effectually that scarcely any of the Gauls who were then encamped survived to bear the tidings of their defeat and destruction. He was, after this, chosen dictator several times, and enjoyed most of the chief offices in the government. He entirely routed the Gauls, and was hailed by his citizens as a second ROMULUS. Having performed the greatest services to Rome, he fell a victim to the plague which greatly destroyed this famous city, A. R. 390.

VALOR, humanity, rectitude, and forbearance, joined to a sincere love for his country, composed the happy character of CAMILLUS. Unjustly banished from Rome, he was no sooner apprized of her danger, than he took arms for her assistance; and though he could not prevent her desolation, at least saved her glory.

BRENNUS,

BRENNUS, who had promised to raise the siege of the capitol for a thousand pounds of gold, was disputing on the ruins of the city, and had insolently thrown his sword and belt into the scales, saying, "Woe to the conquered;" when the unexpected presence of CAMILLUS awed him into respect. CAMILLUS ordered his soldiers to take away the shameful ransom; and turning to the barbarian, said, "Leave this deplorable theatre of thy avarice and cruelty; follow me to the field of honor; there thou shalt find that the Romans deliver their country with iron, and not with gold;" which words he justified by a complete victory. A. M. 3562.



DECIVS.

D E C I U S.



THIS general fell a sacrifice to that patriotic frenzy and superstition which distinguished the Roman character from that of every other people. DECIVS, and his colleague, MANLIUS TORQUATUS, were sent by the senate to chastize the Latins, who demanded to have one of the consuls and half of the senators chosen out of their nation. According to some omens and dreams, it was prognosticated that the general of

one party and the army of the other would, certainly be destroyed. DECIVS and MANLIUS, therefore, agreed that in whatever part the Roman army should be distressed, the commander of that part should devote himself to the gods and die for his country. An oath confirmed this generous resolution. It was likewise enjoined, that no man, on pain of death, should fight without orders.

BOTH armies being arranged, an obstinate engagement ensued, when the Latins pressing very irresistibly upon that part commanded by DECIVS, he, according to promise, rushed into the midst of the enemy, and lost his life amidst a great slaughter he had made by active bravery. The Latins were soon after entirely defeated. But this courage of DECIVS was not more remarkable than the conduct of his colleague MANLIUS, who caused his own son to be put to death for fighting without orders, in defiance of the injunction which had been, before the commencement of the battle,

tle, laid upon the whole Roman army. His son having challenged and slew METIUS, a captain of the Tusculans. MANLIUS, with tears, commended his valour—but condemned him to death for his disobedience—which, though a sad—was a profitable example to the rest of the army.

DECIUS was one of those men, who, from the weakness of their understanding, take fanaticism for virtue; or rather, who, for want of abilities to attain the splendour of true glory, aim at the vain blaze of rashness. The mad action of CURTIUS, who leaped with his horse and armour into a gulph, because the Augurs pretended that it would never close up until the most valuable things in Rome were thrown into it, seems more worthy of admiration than all the achievements of CAMILLUS; and, indeed, was more within the reach of imitation. Thus, in the midst of a battle, in which, as consul, DECIUS led part of the Roman troops against the Latins, he pulled off his armour,

put on a long white robe, and sent word to his colleague MANLIUS, that he was going in that attire to throw himself among the enemies, as a devoted victim to the gods for his success. It is needless to compare this flight of folly to rational valour. A. M. 3668.



FABRICIUS.

FABRICIUS.



FABRICIUS was a distinguished patrician. He was so poor that the portions of his daughters were given out of the public treasury. In the battle which the Romans had with PYRRHUS in Campania, 1800 prisoners being taken, FABRICIUS, with others, were sent to treat with him about their exchange. PYRRHUS being anxious to gain the alliance of the Romans with himself and the Tarentines, endeavoured to get FABRICIUS to inter-

cede with the senators and the people, by treating him with the greatest civility and hospitality. He offered him gold, assuring him at the same time that he had no other motive than to shew respect for a character of such noble and distinguished excellencies. However, FABRICIUS remained unshaken. The next day PYRRHUS commanded one of his largest elephants, completely armed, to be placed behind the hangings. At a signal given, the tapestry was drawn aside amidst the discourse. FABRICIUS, who had never seen an elephant before, betrayed no symptoms of terror, but with the greatest calmness said, with a smile, "Neither your gold yesterday, nor your dreadful beast to-day, can make any impression on me." PYRRHUS immediately released the prisoners only on promise that if the senate accepted not of peace they should return, which they accordingly did agreeable to the command of the senate, on pain of death. After another battle with PYRRHUS who gained the victory, FABRICIUS was chosen consul. Being prepared with

a new-raised army to engage PYRRHUS, this king's physician came to him and offered to poison his royal master. But such was the magnanimity of FABRICIUS that he sent the traitor back to PYRRHUS who commanded him immediately to be hung for his intended treachery and ingratitude, and exclaimed that it was not more difficult to turn the sun from his course than FABRICIUS from the paths of honor and virtue. Such was the noble spirit of the Romans when public worth was more estimable than personal emolument.



REGULUS.



REGULUS had jointly with his colleague—consul **MANLIUS**, the command of the fleet of 330 sail, which the Romans had prepared to attack the Carthaginians. They engaged and took from Carthage 54 and sunk 30 of their ships, with the loss of only 24 themselves. **REGULUS** and **MANLIUS** afterwards landing in Africa, the former was created proconsul and the latter returned to Rome. **REGULUS** encamp-
ing

ing upon the river Bagrada, was obliged to engage a monstrous serpent, which, with the assistance of his army was slain. The skin was sent to Rome. Its length according to LIVY and GELLIUS was 120 feet. He took Tunis and several other cities belonging to the Carthaginians, and, at last, besieged Carthage itself. The inhabitants immediately sued for peace, which REGULUS refused to grant them but upon the most severe terms. XANTIPPUS being appointed to the command of the Carthaginian army, obtained a victory over the Romans near Clupea, killed 30,000, captured 15,000 with ATTILIUS REGULUS their general. Being sent on parole to Rome to plead for peace, and to treat for exchange of prisoners, he persuaded the senate to continue the war, by representing the bad situation of the Carthaginians, and enforcing the necessity of never sheathing the sword till Carthage was destroyed. Having, thus, executed his embassy, he returned most heroically to Carthage and informed them of his conduct. He told them he had persuaded
Rome

Rome not to hearken to any terms of peace until Carthage submitted to her power and authority. The Carthaginians in the despite of their revenge, inclosed him in a barrel stuck full of nails with their points towards him, in which state he died in the most exquisite torments, about the building of Rome 502.

It was in the golden age of Rome, when her glorious sons vied with each other in rectitude, and contempt of riches, that Carthage, whose citizens were immerfed in luxury, and enslaved by avarice, dared to contend for empire. REGULUS was one of the first consuls and generals who humbled the Carthaginians; and though he fell afterwards into their hands, his repeated victories had put them to the necessity of suing for peace.

FABIUS MAXIMUS.



FABIUS MAXIMUS was chosen dictator in consequence of the Romans being in the greatest consternation at the victories obtained over them by HANNIBAL. He was selected particularly for his wisdom and experience, caution and boldness. He proceeded with a considerable army to meet, but not to fight HANNIBAL. His object was to keep him in a perpetual alarm without hazarding his own troops, and to seize the first favourable opportunity of taking this dire

enemy

enemy to the Romans by surprize or stratagem. Wherever HANNIBAL marched FABIVS followed. At Cafilinum, FABIVS had nearly accomplished his design, which was only prevented by HANNIBAL tying lighted torches and firebrands to the horns of 2000 oxen to fright and cause the party who were surrounding him to leave their posts, while he retreated to the rear of his army.

FABIVS, thus, failing in his attempt, excited many complaints. He was unjustly supposed to have been bribed by HANNIBAL to let him escape. MUNITIUS, who he had chosen as his master of horse, was invested with the same dictatorial power. Being saved by FABIVS from falling a victim to his own rashness in an attack of HANNIBAL, he resigned his new accession of power, and subjected himself entirely to the superior discretion of the dictator.

SUCH were the cautious proceedings of MAXIMUS that he was generally distinguished by the appellation

of CUNETATOR. His circumspection caused many to suspect his courage. But HANNIBAL who knew him and his designs better, was exceedingly enraged and perplexed with his manœuvres. He exerted every artifice to render the skill and address of MAXIMUS despicable. He braved him frequently in his camp, and wasted the country round him.

PRINCE VIRIATUS having usurped from the Romans the sovereignty of Portugal, FABIVS recovered it, and afterwards made a peace with the usurper, who was treacherously murdered by SCIPIO, the consul, contrary to the treaty which FABIVS had entered into for the protection of VIRIATUS.

THIS being the last important act of this noble general, we have only to conclude that nature seemed to have formed this man for the protection of the Roman empire from the imminent dangers with which it was threatened by that unparalleled warrior and Roman enemy HANNIBAL.

M A R C E L L U S.



MARCELLUS being created prætor, repulsed several times with considerable loss, HANNIBAL in his sallies out of Nola, and preserved Casilinum, which was reduced to the greatest distress by the attacks of the Carthaginian general, from being taken. He defeated the Ligurians and Liburnians, and slew VIRIDOMARUS, king of the Gauls, with his own hand.

G R E A T

GREAT factions arising amongst the Romans in the city of Syracuse by the murder of HIERONYMUS, grandson of its king, HIRO, MARCELLUS was sent to appease them either by force or persuasion. He besieged the city by sea and land—but he was prevented from storming it by the famous engines which ARCHIMEDES invented for its defence. These engines cast prodigious stones upon the army, huge beams upon the navy, and dismounted all the batteries of the Romans. MARCELLUS, feeling the dire effects of the skill of this mathematician, called him BRIAREUS. This Roman general, perceiving that he must destroy the famous city, as he could not reduce it to obedience by negotiation, could not refrain from tears—especially as so great a man as ARCHIMEDES might be involved in the general havock. To prevent, however, his being slain, he strictly commanded his men to preserve him. But, being immersed in his studies, he was killed, without suspicion of danger, by a common soldier. MARCELLUS caused him to be buried with those

those distinguished honors his wonderful merit deserved. MARCELLUS had various successes with HANNIBAL, with whom he won and lost several battles. In the year 544 of the building of Rome, he was created the fifth time one of the consuls. Going against HANNIBAL again, he was slain in an ambuscade. He was a valiant foldier, and called the Sword, as was FABIVS the Buckler, of Rome. His colleague, CRISPINUS, was wounded at the same time, which soon afterwards caused his death. During the public employment of MARCELLUS, the Roman citizens were again lustrated, and found to be only 1317108 free citizens. This, compared with former lustrations, evinces what great losses the Romans sustained in the Carthaginian wars.

THE clemency of MARCELLUS towards the inhabitants of Syracuse, and his anxiety for the life of ARCHIMEDES, who had long frustrated his attempts against the city, proved that he was not inferior in humanity

manity and beneficence to FABIVS MAXIMVS his colleague in the consulship; happy for the Romans, and for himself, if he had imitated the prudence of that great man! Elated with the artful praises that HANNIBAL bestowed on his valour, he, at last, fell into one of his ambuscades; but by perishing in it, avoided the shame of VARRO, who, on his return to Rome, after a total defeat, received from the mouth of the generous FABIVS, public thanks, for not having given himself up to despair. It is not, however, so much for his overthrow, that he was censured by many of his countrymen, as for his refined effeminacy of manners.



S C I P I O A F R I C A N U S .



SCIPIO AFRICANUS began his public career with rescuing his father from HANNIBAL, who defeated and wounded him in the first battle which he fought with the Romans. He was chosen at a very early age, (24) the proconsul for Spain. Four years after, he returned and was elected one of the consuls. Being desirous to oppose HANNIBAL, he was sent to Sicily, where he provided himself with necessaries for his

his intended expedition. In the 14th year of this Punic War, SCIPIO arrived with a considerable fleet in Africa, where he was joined by MASANISSA, king of Numidia. He immediately attacked HAUNO, who was slain with 3000 of his men in the conflict. He then invested Utica. But SYPHAX marching to its relief, SCIPIO thought it most prudent to raise the siege. He, however, again invested Utica. Knowing the enemy was near, he sent some of his soldiers in the habit of slaves to view their camp. This enabled him to surprize them in such a manner as to cause 40,000 of their men to be killed, and 6000 to be taken prisoners. Soon after, he gained so complete a victory over the Carthaginians that they were obliged to recal their great champion, HANNIBAL, out of Italy. SCIPIO next defeated SYPHAX and took him prisoner. MASANISSA taking possession of his kingdom, from which he had been expelled by SYPHAX, married SOPHONISBA, the wife of the usurper. SCIPIO arriving and complaining of this act, induced MA-

MASSISSA to send her a cup of poison, which she drank with the greatest fortitude. To comfort MASSISSA for the loss he sustained by this sacrifice, SCIPIO proclaimed him king of Numidia, and restored him to the possession of his throne.

HANNIBAL arriving in Africa, was overcome by SCIPIO, near Zama. The Carthaginians had 20,000 slain, and as many taken prisoners. Being accused of despoiling the public treasures, he went to Lintupaur, a sea-town of Campania, in the most retired manner, saying, that "His ungrateful country should not have his bones."

ENDUED with the valour of MARCELLUS, and with the prudence of FABIUS MAXIMUS, he was destined to crown the glorious labour of these two heroes, by the reduction of Carthage. He had the injuries of Rome, and the death of his father to avenge on that proud city. He not only drove the Carthaginians
from

from Spain, but also pursuing them to their own country, there defeated their supposed invincible HANNIBAL. But when, after these exploits, he found that ingratitude was still the vice of his countrymen; he devoted the remainder of his life to philosophy and friendship; more pleased with the remembrance of his many acts of humanity, than with that of his achievements: more elated with the triumph that in his early youth he had gained over himself, by sending back to her lover a beautiful captive, than with his most celebrated victories.



TITUS FLAMINIUS.



FLAMINIUS vanquished the Gauls under **ARIOVISTUS** their general. **PHILIP**, king of Macedon, having joined with **HANNIBAL** excited them to besiege and take **Abydos**. This caused **FLAMINIUS** to be sent against **PHILIP** four years afterwards. **FLAMINIUS** and **PHILIP** met at **Cynocephalas** in **Thessaly**. In this battle the Roman conquerors slew and took prisoners 13,000. **FLAMINIUS** granted **PHILIP** peace,

on

on condition of his relinquishing all pretensions to any of the cities in Greece. Thus was the liberty of Greece the price of victory; for all the cities of Greece were free except Sparta, which lost its freedom by being made the associate with the Achæans after PHILOPOMEN had killed the tyrant NABIS. His rashness was such that HANNIBAL conceived the greatest hopes of entirely subduing the Romans under his command. The Carthaginian general provoked him with many indignities to engage at Arretium. HANNIBAL set on fire all the country round extending to the lake Thrasymene. FLAMINIUS pursued the enemy so unadvisedly that he and his whole army fell into an ambush prepared for him by HANNIBAL. Such was his situation that he could neither return nor resist the danger with which he was surrounded. He was, therefore, slain with 15,000 of his countrymen. About 6000 of the remainder found sufficient courage in their desperation to force the enemy, and regain the top of the mountains. Had they turned upon the Carthaginians

nians they would have changed the fortune of the day in their favor. The fog with which they were surrounded, clearing about noon, discovered the slaughter of their army. The fight urged them to seek their own safety by a rapid retreat. In this they were, however, prevented by MAHARBAL, who took them at night in a village which he surrounded. They yielded themselves and their arms the next day, on the promise of their lives and liberties, which were refused by HANNIBAL, who would not keep faith with his countrymen. He freed all except the Romans, whom he detained fettered in prisons, and treated with the most degrading servitude.



C A T O THE C E N S O R.



CATO derived his name from CATUS, in compliment to his wisdom and experience. Being chosen Censor of Rome, he advised the destruction of Carthage as the only means to preserve the existence of Rome. The city adopted and prepared to execute his advice, which was completed four years after, by the entire demolition of Carthage, by PUBLIUS CORNELIUS SCIPIO. While in Spain he restored the Roman discipline

discipline and reduced many of the Spanish nations which had revolted. It is said that he excited the jealous resentments of the Romans against *Scipio Africanus*, from his envying the honor he had of being frequently saluted by the Spaniards as their king. The senate preparing to send ambassadors into Bithynia, one had the gout, another the head-ach, and the third timidity; he jeeringly said, the people of Rome were going to send an embassy which had neither head, feet, or heart. Such was his hatred to Carthage that he never spake on any public business without concluding with "Delenda est Carthage"—"Carthage is to be destroyed." His morality was so rigid that he opposed the repeal of the Oppian law, which had been suggested by *Oppius*, tribune of the people, soon after the defeat at *Caunæ*. This law forbade women to wear gold, purple, and some other ornaments, with which they used to adorn themselves. He opposed this law being abolished with the greatest ardour, and the most severe inveighings against the females.

females.. However, the women were so clamorous, and filled the streets so tumultuously, in defence of their sumptuous privileges, that the law was annulled. Notwithstanding his great anxiety to have Carthage destroyed, he was deprived of living to see this event; for he died some little time before it happened, in the 85th year of his age.

ROME was corrupted by her conquests; the nations whom she had enslaved, had brought the contagion of luxury within her walls. When CATO the CENSOR undertook to stop the evil in its course by his own example, he carried frugality to sordid avarice, contempt for grandeur to ferocity, courage to rashness, and love for justice to cruelty. Invested with the supreme dignity of public censor, he persecuted all his citizens, bad and good, from a merciless and envious temper. He hated the Carthaginians for their uncouth activity, and the Greeks because he ascribed sloth

loth to politeness. He condemned philosophy and blasphemed the muses, and, in short, proved that excess, even in virtue, is a disorder of the mind, as dangerous, and more intolerable, than the frailty of the heart.



PAULUS

PAULUS ÆMILIUS.



PAULUS ÆMILIUS was a very skilful commander. He caused the eclipse of the moon to be foretold to his soldiers, lest they should be discouraged by it in the war with **P**ERSEUS, king of Macedonia. He kept the men from fighting when they were fatigued, although the officers were desirous to engage. But a beast passing over the river, Enipeus, between the two
armies,

armies, was the cause of their engaging. In this battle PERSEUS lost the day and his kingdom. Flying into Crete where he was abandoned, he surrendered himself to OCTAVIUS. ÆMILIUS severely chastized the Espeists for joining PERSEUS. He plundered and demolished 70 of their towns, by which so great a booty was acquired that every foot-soldier received to the amount of 71 sterling, and each of the cavalry twice that sum. Although he had been denied a triumph by his soldiery, who had before been disappointed in their plunder of Macedonia; yet he afterwards gained one so magnificent as scarcely had its equal before in Rome. PERSEUS, and his two sons were led in great state and splendor before his triumphal chariot. In this year the second Macedonian war was ended, after three years continuance. Thus was terminated the Macedonian kingdom after it had continued 156 years since the death of ALEXANDER, and several centuries before. ÆMILIUS is said by PÄTULUS

CULUS to have brought, by the conquest of PERSEUS, 200 millions of sesterces into the Roman treasury.

ACCORDING TO PATUCULUS, this renowned Roman general died 160 years before CHRIST, amidst the general lamentations of a city to which he had rendered the most signal, glorious, and essential services.

FOR ÆMILIUS to have contained within the bounds of subjection the warlike and powerful ANTIOCHUS, king of Syria; to have made a captive, and drawn before his triumphal chariot, PERSEUS, the sovereign of Macedonia, were achievements not uncommon to the Romans; but to have, in a degenerate time, chosen the path of integrity in his progress to honor and power, is what can be rarely found in the annals of history. Although he supported with dignity, the advantages of an illustrious birth, and the prerogatives annexed to his function of chief of the Augurs; he trusted to virtue only for fame. By his
firmness

firmness, he restored the unruly soldiers to a severe discipline. The same humanity and justice which he practised among his countrymen, were not denied to the conquered nations, who, after his death, vied with the Romans in those tears of gratitude, which are seldom granted to departed greatness.



SCIPIO

SCIPIO ÆMILIANUS.



SCIPIO ÆMILIANUS was one of the most distinguished patrons of learning in Rome. He was the son of the consul, and adopted by the son of AFRICANUS. Under his patronage flourished the classic comic writer, TERENCE, who brought the Roman language to the greatest purity and perfection. The courage and wisdom of SCIPIO frequently preserved the Roman army from falling the victims of the Carthaginians.

nians. He gained the master of the Carthaginian horse to espouse the Roman interest, which acquired him considerable credit. Being chosen consul, he took that part of Carthage, called Megara, and drove the inhabitants into the citadel of Byrsa. After securing the Isthmus and blockading the enemy, he attacked the forces that were stationed in the field with such success that 70,000 were slain and 10,000 taken prisoners. He next attacked and took the wall leading to the Haven, Citho, the forum, and the citadel itself. **ASTRUBAL**, with 50,000 saved themselves, (by yeilding) from the general destruction which awaited the city and its Inhabitants. The wife of **ASTRUBAL** threw herself and children into the flames which had been kindled for the burning of the temple, in which the revolvers who had set it on fire, leaped and perished. This magnificent city, which was 24 miles in circumference, was consigned to destruction. It was 17 days consuming by fire. The news of its demolition was received

received with the greatest joy by the Romans, who had ordered that all the cities which assisted in this war should be destroyed in the same manner, and the lands confiscated to the Romans. He next chased the Carthaginians from Spain, and destroyed Numantia, a famous city in Gallætia. Being thought to favour the Italians more than the Romans, the people became much dissatisfied with his conduct. He was found dead one morning, after no previous illness, and supposed to have been poisoned by his wife and mother-in-law.

SCIPIO ÆMILIANUS owed his birth to PAULUS ÆMILIUS, and was the adopted grandson of SCIPIO AFRICANUS; happy for him if he had inherited the social as well as the heroical virtues of his two illustrious fathers! More elated for having given the last blow of destruction to the already daunted Carthage, than those heroes were after their greatest atchivements, he carried his haughtiness even to the sanctuary of his family.

CAIUS GRACCU, his brother-in-law, found so imperious and obstinate an adversary in him ; his wife SEMPRONIA so arbitrary an husband, that they were both suspected of having procured for him the untimely death with which his overbearing temper was rewarded. Thus proving, that a proud and unjust man is more to be dreaded by his friends than even by his enemies, A. M. 3804.



CAIUS MARIUS.



CAIUS MARIUS was first chosen legatus, or lieutenant to METELLUS. He obtained the consulship by censuring the conduct of METELLUS in the Jugarthine war. MARIUS shewed his expertness in war, by taking the strong cities of Capsa and Mulucha from JUGARTH, who immediately persuaded BOUHUS, king of Mauritania, and his father-in-law to join him. MARIUS then invested Cirta, and attacked BOUHUS, who,

who, with 60,000 men had come to defend it. After a battle which continued three days, the two kings were entirely defeated. MARIUS, in a succeeding battle, is reported to have killed 90,000. BOUHUS immediately repenting of his league with JUGARTH, sent and offered alliance to Rome. This offer they refused—but pardoned his arming against their interests. MARIUS soon after took JUGARTH in an ambuscade, and delivered him to SYLLA his Quæstor. This king, with his two sons, being led in triumph by MARIUS, were next, by order of the senate, executed. Thus ended the Jugarthine war, which had continued seven years.

MARIUS next engaged in a successful war against the Cimbrians (now the Danes) who had made dreadful irruptions in several parts of the Roman territories. He took THEUTOBORCHUS their king, prisoner. In a succeeding war with these vagrant despoilers, MARIUS gained a battle in which 140,000 were killed,
and

and 60,000 taken prisoners, which ended this contest, after a continuance of twelve years. He was engaged in the Social War, and caused the first Civil War, in which he was nearly taken by SYLLA and POMPEY. Being banished, he posted his army upon the Janiculum Hill in order to cut off all resources of the city. His being abrogated, MARIUS, and CINNA who had joined him, entered the city and committed the most outrageous plunders. Contrary to their oath they caused OCTAVIUS, the consul, to be killed and his head to be fixed upon the Rostra. They spared neither age, worth, or dignity. Not content with spreading the most dreadful carnage throughout, the dead bodies were, after being mangled, left to be devoured by dogs and kites. This monster was consul seven times, and died in the 70th year of his age amidst the execrations of those he caused to lament so severely his cruelty, perfidy, and ambition.

CAIUS MARIUS, born from the very dregs of the people, having received from nature an horrid figure

and an atrocious soul, he had only a brutal valour. To this last gift his unwary countrymen trusted their liberty; and though he begun the career of ambition by the blackest ingratitude against METELLUS, his general and benefactor, they pushed him forward and invested him with absolute power. He defeated the Teutonics, the Ambrones, the Cimbri, and delivered Rome from all her enemies but himself, the very worst of them all. Seven times elected consul, he repaid that unusual honor with a series of injustice and outrage. Having fled from the hatred of the victorious SYLLA, he returned with a redoubled fury; and including in his revenge friends and enemies, innocent and guilty, drenched his country in blood. He avoided the sword of the laws, but died by the shafts of remorse. A. M. 3863.

SYLLA.

S Y L L A.



SYLLA learned from **MARIUS** that skill in war which he afterwards employed against him. He took **COPILUS**, king of the **Tolosons** in **Gaul**. **MITHRIDATES**, king of **Pontus**, having by his ambition, cruelty, and insolence, enraged the Romans, **SYLLA**, as consul, was ordered to undertake the war against him. He defeated him so completely that their king and tyrant was obliged to sue for peace, which **SYLLA** granted

granted notwithstanding he is said to have caused 150,000 Romans and Italians to be slain in one day, and in cold blood. The Civil War breaking out, SYLLA crossed the sea with 1600 ships and 60,000 men, and landed at Brundisium where he was joined by METELLUS PICES, POMPEY, and CETHEGUS, against CINNA and MARIUS. A battle was soon fought at Canusium, where NOBANUS the consul, losing 6000 men, fled to Capua. SCIPIO and his son falling into the power of SYLLA, were very generously restored to liberty. He next entered Rome and sold by auction the effects of those citizens who fled from his vengeance. Leaving a garrison in the city, he marched to Clusium and gained several victories over the consul, CARBO, who at last fled to Africa, leaving 30,000 men at Clusium. These POMPEY killed, captured and dispersed. SYLLA, thus, being possessed of all Italy, again entered Rome determined to prosecute his enemies with every misery and calamity his cruel vengeance could suggest. He killed many thousands

in

in a most barbarous manner. 8000 were put to death in a large house called the Villa Publica. Men were slain in the embraces of their wives, children in the arms of their mothers, while the soldiers were ordered to butcher all they met without distinction. Not having sufficiently sated his cruel appetite for slaughter in the first moment of his vengeance, he only paused to denounce more deliberately the particular objects of his revenge. This he did by publishing the tables of proscription which devoted 80 senators and 16,000 knights to destruction. Some of these were slain in the streets, while others prostrate at his feet begged their lives—but had their effects confiscated. This proscription was extended through all the cities of Italy. Neither the temples of the gods, nor the sanctuaries afforded protection. He caused himself to be created perpetual dictator, which in the third year, to the surprise of all, he resigned. This monster terminated his horrid existence in a state worthy his acts. His body was putrified and covered with vermin.

SYLLA

SYLLA was even more execrable than his enemy CAIUS MARIUS; for having received an education conformable to his noble birth, he turned all the advantages which he received from it against his country. With a serene countenance, he ordered rapines, massacres, and all sorts of crimes; in the midst of revels and mirth, he often inserted the names of the virtuous and wealthy citizens in the dreadful list of his bloody proscriptions. With unparalleled impudence, he subverted all order, and overturned the most excellent laws. And though his life was spared by his countrymen, he at last died a victim to the divine wrath. A. M. 3871.



SERTORIUS.

S E R T O R I U S.



SERTORIUS was an admirable expert commander of **CINNA**'s party, and drove out **SYLLA**'s party from Spain. Having joined the Celtiberians, who had before been successful against **METELLUS**; he attempted no less than the invasion of Italy. The senate sent **POMPEY** against him. **POMPEY**, like **HANNIBAL**, passed the Alps. **SERTORIUS** reduced this Roman general to the greatest distresses, which obliged him to send to Rome for supplies. These arriving
were

were of no service against the warlike abilities of SERTORIUS. No considerable battle was fought between them. He was thought invincible by the Spaniards who admired him as a second HANNIBAL. But what could not be effected against him by war was done by his own intemperance and disobliging treatment of his chief soldiers in preferring the Celtiberians for his guard. This acceleration of his ruin was increased by his insolent, debauched and cruel temper. He put many to death without reason, justice or necessity. PERPENNA, who commanded the forces sent from the army of LEPIDUS, being apprehensive that he might himself fall the next victim of his barbarity, endeavored to prevent it by the following stratagem, which nothing but the necessity of self-preservation could palliate. He invited SERTORIUS to a sumptuous feast at which he made him and his companion entirely intoxicated. Being, thus, rendered incapable of defending himself or being defended, he was murdered by PERPENNA. This was too inglorious an end for so great a soldier who had so ably and valiantly resisted all the Roman forces that had been sent against him.

SERTORIUS flew from the cruelty of SYLLA, and retired to Spain, where his valour and humanity acquired him a little empire of faithful subjects, and an army of undaunted warriors. With them he defeated all the generals who were sent against him; but, as he loved his country so much as he hated its tyrant, he obliged the barbarians to respect the prisoners; and endeared the Roman name to them by all the acts of benevolence that his zeal could suggest. He founded a school for their children, and convinced them that learning is the first step towards greatness. Fame having carried his name to Asia, he received an embassy from MITHRIDATES, with pressing entreaties to associate their interest and glory, but he refused a confederacy with so declared an enemy of Rome. His generosity was blamed by those of his countrymen, who had fled to him, by whom he was treacherously assassinated. A. M. 3879.

LUCULLUS.

LUCULLUS.



LUCULLUS was consul with COTTA. Being a brave general, he was sent against MITHRIDATES whom he found besieging Cyzicus, a city of Propentis, where he reduced this ambitious king to the greatest extremities. He intercepted 15,000 men who were flying from the famine with which they were surrounded, and slew a considerable number of those with whom the king himself was endeavouring to escape. **LUCULLUS** gained several victories at sea, and took many

many of MITHRIDATES' commanders. This prince saved himself from being taken by going on board a pirate's vessel, which, after many difficulties landed him in his own kingdom. LUCULLUS pursued him, and having defeated him in a battle, caused him to fly to TIGRANES, in Armenia, for protection. All Pontus, except a few places, yielded to this Roman consul, who received as a present, a crown of gold from MACCHARES, king of Bosphorus. This victor followed MITHRIDATES to Armenia, and demanded him to be delivered to the Roman power. TIGRANES refusing, LUCULLUS suddenly passed the river Euphrates with two legions, and about 3000 horse, with which he took, after a great slaughter, the metropolis, Triganorerta, which surrendered itself. LUCULLUS then eluded the united endeavors of TIGRANES and MITHRIDATES to surround him with two considerable armies they had raised. This consul being superceded, by the senate appointing GLABRIO to take the command, all his army abandoned him.

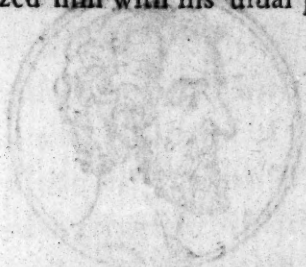
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MITHRIDATES

MITHRIDATES immediately recovered the greatest part of his kingdom. LUCULLUS returning to Rome, carried with him a considerable quantity of booty, furnished a public library, advanced the Roman refinement and luxuries in their feasts, buildings, and furniture. He was, likewise, the first who brought the cherry-tree out of Pontus into Italy.

THE reign of virtue, in Rome, being past, LUCULLUS thought prudent to treasure up the rich spoil he had won in Asia, from the kings MITHRIDATES and TIGRANES; and having devoted the best part of his life to his country, he resolved to dedicate the remainder of it to ease and splendour. POMPEY, who had robbed him of his last laurels, wanting also to take from him the fame of being the most sumptuous and delicate of men, invited himself, with CICERO, to sup with him, insisting that he should not send any orders for preparations. LUCULLUS seemingly complied;

plied; but, by telling his servant that he intended to pass the evening in the saloon of APOLLO, he defeated his malice; for, as on each of his apartments was set the price of the entertainment which was to be made in it, he surprized him with his usual profusion. A. M. 3893.



C R A S S U S.



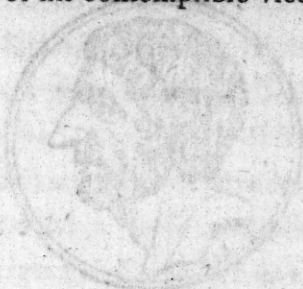
CRASSUS was proconsul in Africa, and a person of great riches and nobility. At this time a rebellion in the state was raised by SPARTACUS, a Gladiator, who, having escaped from a fencing-school at Capua, raised a vagabond army of 70,000: with this he had overthrown many Roman commanders and two consuls. But in the third year he was himself entirely defeated by CRASSUS. When the first triumvirate was

was formed, CRASSUS was chosen by CÆSAR as the third, with himself and POMPEY. CÆSAR, fearing he might be recalled from Gaul, persuaded POMPEY and CRASSUS to endeavour to obtain the consulship and to continue him in his warlike employments for five years longer. POMPEY and CRASSUS, by violence, obtained the consulship, and CÆSAR was continued five years more in his government of Gaul. CRASSUS undertook the Syrian and Parthian War, while POMPEY was deputed to engage the Africans and Spaniards. CRASSUS prepared with the greatest alacrity for his expedition. He pursued his journey with a considerable degree of vigour. In his march he rifled the temple at Jerusalem to the value of 10,000 talents, which POMPEY, much to his honor, had spared. In his passage he evinced that his disposition was more avaricious than brave: he lifted many in order to discharge them again for money. He neglected the opportunities of attacking the Parthians when they were defenceless, until they acquired sufficient force to slay him

with 30,000 of his Roman army. These barbarians being apprized of his avarice, and supposing that he had made war against them more for plunder than glory, melted gold and poured it into his dead body—in order to fill it with that which, when alive, his heart could never be satisfied with. His death happened about the year of Rome 694. B. C. 57.

CRASSUS had nothing to boast of but an odious avarice, having done all which that base passion could invent. He shamefully bought the spoils of his countrymen, because the cruel SYLLA set upon them the same low price which he had put on their blood; and contrived every sort of means to enrich himself by the public calamities. By a crafty kindness to CÆSAR, for whose debts he answered, he procured himself to be associated with him and POMPEY in the empire of the world; which he divided among them according to their respective inclinations; for, CÆSAR had Gaul to conquer, POMPEY Rome to shine in, and CRASSUS Parthis

Parthis to plunder; but he blindly fell into the snares of a traitor, who engaged his army in a sandy wilderness, where he saw his soldiers and his valiant son perish by want and fatigue. At last he was massacred, the just reward of his contemptible vices. A. M. 3897.



P O M P E Y.



POMPEY, from his success in war obtained the surname of Great. He triumphed three times over Europe, Asia, and Africa. By these victories he doubly increased the Roman revenue and territories. Having conquered MITHRIDATES, he informed the people that he had found lesser Asia the boundary—but he had left it the middle of the Roman empire. He was one of the famous triumvirate who assumed the government

government of Rome and its dependencies. What leisure he found from his wars, he employed in the study of eloquence and literature. He performed the most signal acts of bravery and success in the first civil war, defeated CARBO with 30,000 in Africa, king SERTORIUS in Spain, and destroyed the pirates with which the Romans were infested. To these glorious actions he added the entire defeats of MITHRIDATES, TIGRANES, and many other eastern kings. For these services he obtained a most magnificent triumph. Through the intrigues of CATO, POMPEY was opposed by the senate, which was the ultimate cause of himself, CÆSAR and CRASSUS being chosen triumvirates who destroyed the consular and popular state. He next assisted CÆSAR in his consulship, procured the restoration to CICERO, and afterwards gained, by force, the consulship with CRASSUS. Envyng the rising power of CÆSAR, he quarrelled with him, and abandoned Rome, and afterwards Italy. During this voluntary exile, he had excited all the interest of the
cast

east in his favor, by which he obtained considerable sea and land forces, with which he had many wars with his rival. He had in his camp above 200 senators, who assembled in the form of a senate: among these was M. BRUTUS. During this time, the fortune of CÆSAR was doubtful. He, however, with 20,000 foot and 6000 horse met POMPEY at Pharsalia. Before the attack began CÆSAR was re-inforced by MARK ANTHONY and CALPURNIUS, with 3 legions and 800 horse. After many parleys and skirmishes, these heroes prepared to engage for the empire of the world. POMPEY'S army consisted of 45,000 foot and 7000 horse; while CÆSAR'S, according to PLUTARCH, was 22,000 foot and 1000 horse. They engaged; the result was the defeat of POMPEY, and CÆSAR possessing the empire of the world. POMPEY fled to Egypt, where he was murdered by ACHILLES and SEPTIMIUS, by the instigation of the governors of PTOLEMY, who was then a minor.

POMPEY,

POMPEY, a favorite of SYLLA, perfectly knew the paths which he had trodden to arrive at arbitrary power; and saw that by vitiating the vital parts of the Roman constitution, he had rendered liberty almost a burden to the multitude. None was ever better situated than POMPEY for aiming at sovereignty. Enamoured with pageantry he over-ran with arms three parts of the world, merely to drag after his triumphal chariot some captives of every nation. His narrowness of mind was taken for virtue, till he manifested it, first by his union, and afterwards by his rupture with CÆSAR, at whose hostile march he left Italy, and gave up the empire, after having scarce fought a battle for it; then running headlong into the glaring snares of PTOLEMY, by whose order he was murdered, convinced the world, how much a vain man is incapable to attain true greatness. A. M. 3902.

CATO

C A T O T H E Y O U N G E R .



CATO PORCIUS the younger, was the grandson of CATO PORCIUS the elder and moralist. He opposed CÆSAR in persuading the Romans not to adopt rigorous punishments for the crimes of CATALINE and his associates. CICERO having been the chief cause of saving Rome from this conspiracy, CATO styled him the "Father of his country." He opposed POMPEY in his interests and political ambition. CÆSAR
desiring

desiring that the formality of the candidate for the consulship being present might be dispenced with, was successfully opposed by CATO, who was always desirous of the laws being maintained in their utmost rigour. He, however, relaxed from this rigid discipline when the question of bribery was debated. He thought the welfare of the commonwealth required the law for its punishment to be sometimes dispensed with. CATO was sent from Rome by the intrigues of CLODIUS. In the civil war between CÆSAR and POMPEY, he joined the camp of the latter. By his advice, it was determined by the senators who were in POMPEY'S army, that no Roman citizen should be put to death out of battle, and that no town subject to the Roman empire should be plundered. At the defeat of POMPEY at Pharfalia CATO was the only general remaining. He fled to Utica, where he established a senate composed of 300 Romans, who had escaped with him to this retreat. Finding the danger of this asylum being attacked by CÆSAR, he advised all his companions

companions either to save themselves by sea, or rely on the clemency of the conqueror. He embraced them with the greatest tenderness and retired, with his sword, to his chamber, where he read, during a part of the night, the *Phædo* of PLATO concerning the immortality of the soul. Having slept some little time, just as day appeared he took his sword and thrust it into his heart. This not dispatching him, he staggered and fell upon his bed: in his fall he threw down a table on which he had drawn some geometrical figures. The noise alarmed his slaves, who, with his sons and friends, entered his chamber, where he might have been recovered had he not resolved to expire; which he did in the presence of all who had come to his assistance. Thus died CATO. CÆSAR hearing of his fate said, "CATO has envied me the glory of saving his life; I, therefore envy him the glory of his death."

THIS great man, inherited the firmness of his grandfather

fire CATO the CENSOR, without any of his faults; for, he was at the same time just and humane, wise and humble, æconomical and liberal. He eagerly espoused the cause of his country, in whose defence he employed forcible eloquence and undaunted courage. As he was the professed enemy of all kinds of tyrants, he neither trusted the moderation, nor flattered the pride of POMPEY, whose party he at last followed, only because he judged it the less dangerous, and the more easy to be overruled. The African shore, to which he conducted the remains of POMPEY's army, the city of Utica, which he undertook to defend, gave a new employment to his general benevolence. At last, seeing CÆSAR had subdued the good genius of Rome, he slew himself; thinking it virtue not to survive the public liberty. A. M. 3904.

CATALINE.

C A T A L I N E.



LUCIUS CATALINE was descended from an illustrious family. He was suspected of having injured a Vestal virgin, and murdered his own son from jealousy. Having contracted by his luxury, debauchery, and extravagance, debts which he could not pay, he formed a conspiracy to possess Rome in order to devote it to the plunder of himself and his followers. He devoted Cicerō and several senators as objects of
his

his vengeance. The design, however, being communicated by a prostitute to Cicerō, the senate and city were apprized in time to save Rome from being burnt, and its inhabitants plundered and massacred. The senate being assembled, CATALINE appeared, and with the most consummate hypocrisy disavowed the design. He, however, thought proper to depart that evening for Hetruria. Some of the conspirators being taken, they were all executed. CATALINE himself was soon after overtaken by C. ANTONIUS, near the Alps, as he was passing into Gaul to levy additional forces. CATALINE with his small army engaged the consul—and was slain with all his followers. Although the cause was atrocious, he and his army fought with the greatest resolution until scarcely one remained to bear the tidings of their defeat.

He was a man of vigorous mind and body. There was no labour he could not endure, no danger he could not meet, no enterprize he could not plan, nor any villainy

villainy he would not execute to gratify his ambition, luxury, or resentment. The depravity of the Roman state encouraged this worthless character with the hope of finding the effeminate and tyrannical Romans, (as he described them) fall an easy sacrifice to his revenge and ambition.



JULIUS

JULIUS CÆSAR.



JULIUS CÆSAR was nearly lost to Rome by being included in the proscription of SYLLA. He greatly contributed to the first great authority of POMPEY. In CATALINE'S conspiracy he evinced himself to be a friend to humanity. But he first distinguished himself as a warrior by his successes in the Spanish wars. Having refused his triumph, he joined POMPEY and CRASSUS in the first triumvirate. He was

chosen consul. Afterwards he undertook expeditions against the Gauls, Germans, and Britains, over whom he obtained the most glorious victories. Returning to Rome, he differed with POMPEY and the senate, and finally defeated POMPEY at Pharsalia, and rendered himself master of Italy. He went again to Spain and fought with AFRANIUS and PETREUS. After this he commenced war in Egypt, where he fell in love with CLEOPATRA. He erected a temple to the memory of POMPEY. Returning from Egypt, he attacked and defeated PHARMACES, son of MITHRIDATES. He then proceeded to CATO, and the rest of those who had attached themselves to POMPEY. CATO having slain himself ended CÆSAR's war with Africa. He then returned to Rome and triumphed for all his victories. Having performed these achievements in war, he began to cultivate the arts, sciences, and refinements of peace. His most memorable act of this nature was the regulation of the year in that mode which has been since called, from him, the Julian Calendar. He afterwards

terwards undertook an expedition against the sons of POMPEY in Spain, where he obtained a decisive victory at the Plains of Munda, and slew 30,000 of the enemy. Here he said that, "At all other places he had fought for glory—but at Munda he had fought for his life." Returning once more to Rome, the greatest honors were conferred on him by his idolizers, the people, who created him perpetual dictator. This perpetuity of power excited not only the jealousy but the fears of BRUTUS, CASSIUS, CASEA, and others in such a manner as to determine them to restore Rome from this danger to its liberties by the assassination of CÆSAR. A conspiracy was formed, and this most wonderful character was murdered on the ides of March, at the foot of POMPEY's statue in the senate.

JULIUS CÆSAR had pursued the wars for the Romans in Gaul for the space of ten years, stormed 800 towns, subdued 300 states for them, and carried the glory of their arms as far as the British shore; when,

instead of the honors which he deserved; he was declared a traitor, and as such persecuted with a blind and perverse obstinacy. He pitied the folly of their alarms for a liberty which they had long before lost in torrents of blood; and whose shadow they daily offered to the shrine of POMPEY their empty idol, whom he soon overthrew at the head of his worshipers. He then endeavoured to turn their eyes on true greatness and unaffected virtues, to win their hearts with the united powers of clemency and munificence. Fruitless care! Though he had restored Rome to peace and grandeur, he was massacred in the midst of the senate. A. M. 3906.



CICERO

C I C E R O.



CICERO is said to have been so called from a wart, like a pea, which he had on his forehead, or being descended lineally from APPIUS, king of Volsi, who was called CICERO, or from another wart, resembling a chick-pea, which he had on his nose. He was made prætor, and distinguished himself by his oration in favor of POMPEY having unlimited power over the army. By his skilful management, vigilance,

and penetration, CATALINE'S conspiracy was rendered abortive, by which Rome and its citizens were preserved from the destruction to which they were devoted. He was banished by CLODIUS, who caused, likewise, his house, villages, and furniture to be demolished. On the spot was erected a temple to liberty. By the interest of POMPEY, CICERO was recalled from banishment. MILO having killed CLODIUS, CICERO became his advocate. But all his pleadings were in vain; for MILO was banished. CICERO returning from his government of Cilicia, demanded, for his great exploits, a triumph, which was refused. MARK ANTHONY was by CICERO declared an enemy to the state. CÆSAR being dead, ANTHONY endeavoured to revenge himself for the invectives cast upon him by CICERO in his orations—CICERO, to avoid the dangers which threatened him, put to sea. But not being able to endure it he returned to land, determining to die in a country he had so frequently preserved. CICERO perceiving those
who

who came to assassinate him, ordered his litter to be set down, when he, with the greatest resignation laid out his neck to LENA, who he had by his eloquence before saved from condemnation. LENA cut off his head and hands, which he sent to ANTHONY. This vindictive character when he saw them, could not avoid insulting the lifeless members of the body—crying out, that his revenge was satisfied, and he had no farther occasion for proscriptions. Thus fell the renowned CICERO in the 63d. year of his age.

CICERO was born in the most depraved times of Rome, when the commonwealth being arrived at the summit of its grandeur, stood on the brink of ruin. He, from his earliest years, devoted himself to eloquence, in order to stem the torrent of corruption which overwhelmed his country. His sagacity and vigilance saved his fellow-citizens from the conspiracy of CATALINE; and his integrity supported him in the unjust exile with which CLAUDIUS rewarded the labour

labour of his glorious consulship. Recalled with honor, he exposed himself to new dangers, by siding with the justest party; and, at last, lost his life, when the Romans were irretrievably enslaved. ANTHONY, to whose vengeance he fell a sacrifice, caused his head and hands to be cut off, and set upon that same rostrum from which he lashed the rich and so eloquently protected the poor and friendless. A. M. 3907.



M A R C U S B R U T U S.



MARCUS BRUTUS was a roman senator who joined the interest of POMPEY in the second civil war. When CÆSAR was chosen perpetual dictator, he, with several other senators, conspired the death of this hero, who was thought to be the tyrant of Rome. Being prætor with CASSIUS he was one of the first who devised the means of rescuing the liberties of Rome from that imminent destruction with which they were threatened

threatened. He was greatly incited to this by **CASSIUS** who told him that, from other prætors the people expected shows and pastimes—but from him, whose name was a terror to tyrants, they demanded the ruin and extinction of arbitrary power. **BRUTUS** became greatly discomposed in his thoughts, which caused **PORTIA**, his wife, to enquire the reason. With some reluctance he told her the design, and made her one of the conspiracy. The ides of March being fixed for the perpetration of **CÆSAR**'s murder, **BRUTUS**, with **CASSIUS**, **CASEA**, **CYMBER**, **CECIMUS**, and others, repaired with daggers under their cloaks to the senate, where they waited the arrival of **CÆSAR** who was expected there on that day. **CÆSAR** entering the senate, and being first wounded by **CASEA** and others, **BRUTUS** drew forth his dagger, which **CÆSAR** no sooner saw than he desisted from defending himself, exclaiming, "What! my son **BRUTUS**, and thou too?" **BRUTUS**, however, aided the assassination which ended the life of **CÆSAR**, and his tyranny over the liberties

ties of Rome. BRUTUS and CASSIUS next met at Sardis and resolved with their armies to attack ANTHONY and OCTAVIUS. They proceeded to Philippi, a city between Thrace and Macedonia. Near this place were the forces of the new triumviri ANTHONY, OCTAVIUS, and LEPIDUS. The armies engaged, and BRUTUS had such success over the forces commanded by OCTAVIUS that he obliged him to retreat to the camp of ANTHONY. In this battle, CASSIUS fearing that BRUTUS had lost the victory, killed himself. The fortune of the day turning against BRUTUS, this unfortunate hero and patriot fell by the hand of his slave, whom he desired to hold his sword while he rushed on it for the purpose of ending a life oppressed less with his own misfortunes than with the devoted fate of his country.

This infatuated hero, gloried in his ancestor, JUNIUS BRUTUS, and to imitate him, burnt with the desire of restoring Rome to liberty. But, he considered not
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the difference of the times; that the laws, which can easily govern a people in their rise to the summit of virtue, ought to be enforced with an unusual power when each individual is plunged into the gulph of corruption; and that, equality, which insures the public freedom in a little state, only multiplies the number of contending tyrants in a vast empire. In this enthusiasm, he headed the conspiracy against CÆSAR his benefactor, who perceiving him in the number of his murderers, ceased to defend his life, proving, that the ingratitude of a dear friend is an evil worse than death for a noble and sensible heart. A. M. 3908.



MARCUS

MARCUS ANTONIUS.



MARCUS ANTONIUS being consul, at the time JULIUS CÆSAR was murdered, was extremely enraged, at his death, and resolved with LEPIDUS, to revenge it on his assassins. The consul immediately took command of a legion. He ordered the will of CÆSAR to be publicly read in order to influence the people in the cause of OCTAVIUS whom CÆSAR left to be his heir. He made a funeral oration over the body
of

of CÆSAR in the senate—and caused the people to threaten the most exemplary punishments on his murderers, whose houses were mostly set on fire by the enraged populace. ANTHONY soon after being more determined to raise himself than to promote the interests of OCTAVIUS, refused him his assistance. He procured the command of the 6 legions that lay in Macedonia, where he detained them under the pretence of repelling the Getæ who, on CÆSAR's death, he informed the senate, had invaded that province. He obtained Macedonia for his brother C. ANTONIUS, and Gaul for himself. He was, however, hated by his soldiers. But he marched into Gaul, from whence he caused DECIMUS BRUTUS, who governed it, to depart for Rome. He censured OCTAVIUS as the patron of CÆSAR's murderers. ANTHONY was defeated in a battle near Mutina, from whence he fled to LEPIDUS the triumvir, who took possession of the world. CICERO declaiming against ANTHONY's ambition, ANTHONY proscribed and

and next caused him to be murdered. He, with OCTAVIUS obtained a decisive victory over BRUTUS and CASSIUS, who with an army had retired to Syria. ANTHONY went to Athens and from thence passed into Asia, where all the princes of the east who acknowledged the Roman power, paid him homage. Proceeding to Egypt, he fell in love with CLEOPATRA, and made himself the arbiter of all the contentions between the sovereigns of the east. He discarded his wife OCTAVIA, and married CLEOPATRA, and declared war against OCTAVIUS: A battle was fought between them, at Actium, for the empire of the world. CÆSAR had 400 ships, and ANTHONY no more than 200. CLEOPATRA flying from the battle caused ANTHONY to desert his standard and to kill himself, rather than fall into the power of his rival OCTAVIUS.

THE great qualities of ANTONIUS made him appear a deserving sovereign of half the world; but vices
M ranked

ranked him beneath a brute. He was valiant, eloquent, and liberal; cruel, insolent, and profligate. CÆSAR employed and despised him. As the benefits bestowed on him by CÆSAR had obliged him to avenge his death; he boldly undertook it, with hopes of making his zeal the first step to a grandeur equal to his departed guardian; but was stopped in his ambitious career by his adopted son and nephew OCTAVIUS; who forced him to partake the empire with him. He married the beautiful and virtuous OCTAVIA; but forsook her for the abandoned CLEOPATRA, with whom he spent his days in excess; and for whom he slew himself, though convinced of her perfidy; proving to the last, how dreadful a madness is vicious love. A. M. 3090.

OCTAVIA,

OCTAVIA



WAS the sister of OCTAVIUS, and the wife of ANTHONY. She was discarded by her husband as a sacrifice to the vanity of CLEOPATRA. Possessing every beauty to charm mankind, and every virtue that could adorn her own sex. She interposed between her brother and husband and restored them to their former friendship. Thus was a union cemented between them for five years longer, which being ended, AN-

M 2

THONY

ANTHONY left OCTAVIA and returned to Syria. Her generosity, her mild behaviour, and her love and respect for her husband incensed the people against ANTHONY for his ill treatment of a woman of such extraordinary merit. ANTHONY having brought CLEOPATRA to Athens, sent orders to OCTAVIA at Rome, demanding that she and all her children would leave his house in that city. OCTAVIA readily obeyed the cruel orders, without murmuring. But she could not avoid lamenting that she was the cause of a war whose consequences must be fatal to her. When she heard her husband's will, which OCTAVIUS had obtained, she bore the reflection of its insulting contents with the greatest temper and fortitude. He had ordered in this will that if he died in Rome his body should be carried in funeral pomp through the principal places of the city, and afterwards sent to CLEOPATRA, to whom, it is said, that if his arms had prospered, he meant to have given Rome. Thus would the seat of this glorious empire have been transferred to Egypt.

AN

AN happy intercourse of three years had kindled in the tender heart of OCTAVIA, a most ardent and pure flame for her husband ANTONIUS, to whom she had been given by her brother OCTAVIUS, as a sacred pledge of peace and unity, betwixt these two rivals for power; when, alas! the artifice of CLEOPATRA deprived her of the object of her affection. She silently submitted to her fate; and continued her services to every friend of her consort, even after he had refused to see her in a long journey which she took in search of him. She pitied his infatuation when he sent her a divorce, lamented his death as if he had been a just and tender husband, and treated the children of her rival as her own, giving, to the last, a glorious instance of the power that true and virtuous love has over an heroic soul. A. M. 3920.

VIPSANIUS AGRIPPA.



VIPSANIUS AGRIPPA was distinguished for sharing with MÆCENAS, the friendship and confidence of AUGUSTUS. Before this Emperor obtained the government of Rome, AGRIPPA was appointed by him to the command of the fleet which he had prepared against young POMPEY. AGRIPPA first conquered, and was himself afterwards defeated. This scene of war was in Sicily, where AGRIPPA soon returned and landed

landed 21 legions, 2000 horse, and 5000 light-armed men. Agreeable to the proposal of POMPEY, the battle was fought at sea, where AGRIPPA performing most glorious acts of skill and courage defeated POMPEY, and sunk 28 of his vessels. All the rest, except 17 which escaped, were either taken or destroyed. All POMPEY's land-forces immediately surrendered themselves to the power of OCTAVIUS. POMPEY fled to ANTHONY in Syria. But what renders the name of AGRIPPA still more famous with every lover of liberty is, the arguments he used to dissuade OCTAVIUS, to abandon the thoughts of submitting the liberties of Rome to his own authority. He asked what advantage restoring Rome from its civil wars would be, if the citizens were not permitted to enjoy those liberties for which the wars were first begun. To shew the danger his usurping the government would expose himself to, he observed that the name of slavery was so odious to the Roman disposition, that no person who attempted to establish it in Rome

could be protected from their vengeance, whatever might be their virtues, merits, or services. To prove this, he reminded him of the fate of his great father, JULIUS. He asked him if he was desirous to be branded as a tyrant, rather than revered, as he now was, the saviour and protector of the people from the carnage of war, and the perpetual contentions of domestic struggles for liberty against the ambitious designs of oppression. But unhappily for Rome, this patriotic advice was rejected, and she had to date from this period the loss of her liberty, greatness, and existence.



MÆCENAS,

MÆCENAS.



MÆCENAS was the friend of OCTAVIUS and the patron of HORACE and VIRGIL. Contrary to the advice of AGRIPPA, he persuaded OCTAVIUS to accept of the Roman government. Having thus induced him to become the Emperor of Rome, he gave him the best instructions for the welfare of the people, and security of himself. He told him, that if the people found him modest and worthy in his actions, content
with

with his own riches without oppressing the indigent to increase his luxuries, and not punish others—while he was himself licentious, that he would be loved and honoured as the father and preserver of his country. But his chief advice was that he would treat his subjects in that manner he desired to be treated when he was himself a subject. This, he assured him, would not fail of rendering his designs prosperous, his life happy, and his name honourable. By his encouragement, the age of AUGUSTUS became the most distinguished æra for classical learning and literary genius. HORACE, VIRGIL, and OVID flourished under his auspices, and received the countenance of AUGUSTUS. Not only poetry—but history attained its greatest perfection in the Roman language: while OVID, HORACE, and VIRGIL, were obtaining immortality by their odes, satires, epics, and metamorphoses, LIVY was attaining his greatest eminence by history.

FRIENDSHIP, still more than fortune, gave the empire

pire to OCTAVIUS, and encircled his head with the wreath of glory; for, AGRIPPA won his battles, and MÆCENAS presided over his councils. As the understanding of OCTAVIUS was better than his heart, he eagerly pursued the way MÆCENAS pointed out as the surest for recovering an honourable fame, and erasing the remembrance of his past cruelties. He consequently encouraged learning, and as MÆCENAS was the channel through which his favors overflowed on merit, MÆCENAS also directed the return of gratitude. Beneath the dew of his munificence, the brightest flowers of poetry blossomed; the fields of eloquence were restored to their verdant hue, and the fruits of philosophy ripened to maturity. A crowd of rare genius illustrated his reign; the most excellent performances promised him a favourable judgment from posterity, and incited him to deserve it.

OCTAVIUS.

O C T A V I U S.



OCTAVIUS, surnamed AUGUSTUS, being son to JULIUS CÆSAR, declared himself his heir. Quarrelling after with MARK ANTHONY, he marched and defeated him. He next differed with the senate which caused him to join with ANTHONY and LEPIDUS in the second triumvirate. Assisted by ANTHONY, he overthrew BRUTUS and CASSIUS in Syria. After their death he exercised great cruelties. He next commenced

menced a war, in which he was successful against **LUCIUS ANTONIUS** and with young **POMPEY**. He married **LIVIA**, who was then pregnant and the wife of **TRIBERIUS**. He was no sooner chosen perpetual tribune than he again quarrelled with **ANTHONY**, against whom he proclaimed war, and was defeated at **Actium**. After the battle he visited **CLEOPATRA**, whom he treated with the greatest kindness. Having reduced Egypt, he shut the temple of **JANUS**. Being desirous of possessing the whole government of Rome, he consulted his two friends, **AGRIPPA** and **MÆCENAS** upon the design. **AGRIPPA** dissuaded him from accepting of such a power; but **MÆCENAS** urged him to receive the government. Being thus resolved, he made himself the first Emperor of Rome; and established the most excellent ordinances for his own stability and the people's welfare. Having ended domestic wars by assuming that power which was their incentive, he proceeded to the cultivation of all the blessings of peace. Arts, sciences, and literature, so much

much adorned the period of his government, that his life is justly distinguished in the annals of literature by the celebrated title of The Augustan age.

HAVING, given a concise biography of the Romans from their first establishment until AUGUSTUS finally founded the empire ; we think it necessary to add as brief a detail as possible of the Roman Emperors. In this appendage to our history, we shall only relate those actions which tended to extend or contract the power of Rome, in church and state, under the last revolution of its government.

TIBERIUS.

TIBERIUS III, EMPEROR.



HE was the son of LIVIA and TIBERIUS NERO. He came to the empire when he was 55 years old. A. R. 754, and A. D. 14. His chief talent was dissimulation, and he was universally hated and despised for his pride, cruelty, avarice, and debauchery. Dreading GERMANICUS, son of his brother DRUSUS, he sent him into the east against the Parthians, and ordered PISO, governor of Syria, to poison him; which was

was done, A. R. 772. His mother LIVIA being dead, he poisoned his own son, DRUSUS CÆSAR, and starved NERO and DRUSUS, the sons of GERMANICUS. He was instigated to these cruelties by his vicious and worthless favourite, SEJANUS, who was afterwards deservedly hung by the common hangman. In the eighteenth year of his reign JESUS CHRIST was crucified. Having subdued many German nations, and added Galatia and Cappadocia to the empire. TIBERIUS died in the 77th year of his age, after a reign of 22 years and 6 months.



CALIGULA.

CALIGULA, IVth EMPEROR.


CAIUS CALIGULA was the son of GERMANICUS and AGRIPPINA, and nephew to TIBERIUS. Being born in a camp and educated among the soldiers, he was called CALIGULA from his wearing, like the Roman soldiers, little boots, which were called in latin Caligæ. He came to the empire at 20 years of age, amidst the joys and congratulations of the people, who seemed to have the greatest confidence

dence in the promise of his apparent virtues. But he soon disappointed their hopes by his cruelty, and abominable excesses. He filled Rome with the blood of the most distinguished in the empire, and even abused his own sisters. He wished that the people of Rome had but one head that he might have the pleasure of destroying it at a stroke. He built a temple to the memory of his sister DRUSILLA, and put to death those who lamented not her decease: he said they first deserved it from their envying her happy state among the gods—and the other, for not bewailing the loss of so amiable a princess. He declared his horse consul in full senate, rode over the sea from Naples to Baiæ, a distance of four miles, by the means of a bridge of gallies which he caused to be placed between these places for the purpose, and ordered those who came to see him perform this feat, to be thrown into the sea after he had most magnificently feasted them. Having reigned 3 years, 10 months, and 8 days, he was killed by CASSIUS and SABINUS. A. R. 781. and A. D. 41.

CLAUDIUS,

CLAUDIUS, Vth EMPEROR.



CLAUDIUS, son of DRUSUS, began to reign A. R. 781. A. D. 41. He was proclaimed Emperor by the soldiers who found him in the senate, where he had retired for safety, and where they had gone for plunder. He was virtuous—but spiritless and imprudent. He was unfortunately married to that monster of a woman, MESSALINA. CLAUDIUS, not being

able to endure her vile conduct, caused her, and one of her favourite gallants, CAIUS SILIUS, to be sacrificed to his vengeance. He next married AGRIPPINA, who established the Roman colony upon the Rhine in Germany, which is now called Cologn. CLAUDIUS was poisoned by this wife to render the throne vacant for her son. But he was cured by his physician. Having reigned 13 years, 8 months, and 20 days, he died A. R. 794. and A. D. 54. He added to the Roman Empire Britain and Mauratiana.



NERO,

NERO, Vith EMPEROR.



THIS Emperor was the son of DOMITIAN AENOBARBUS and AGRIPPINA. He came to the empire at 16 years old, and was tutored by SENECA and governed by BURRUS. His first act of cruelty was the murder of BRITANNICUS and his mother. Having taken the wife of OTHO, he repudiated and put to death OCTAVIA, and killed the above mentioned wife of OTHO. A conspiracy was formed against him in order

to relieve Rome from his cruelty and tyranny. Finding **LUCON** and **SENECA** among the conspirators, he caused them to be put to death. But the action which has chiefly reprobated his memory, is, having caused Rome to be set on fire in every part, that he might enjoy the sight of this destructive conflagration, which he did from the tower of **MÆCENAS**. To gratify his inveterate hatred of the christians, he accused them of this deed, and caused numbers of them to be executed for the crime which he had himself committed. Gaul revolted against him, and **GALBA** being declared Emperor, **NERO** retired to a cave, and caused his freed-man, **EPAPHRODITUS**, to murder him with his poniard, in the 31st year of his age, and the 14th of his reign. **NERO** was the last of the Augustan race. He was slain A. R. 808. and A. D. 68.

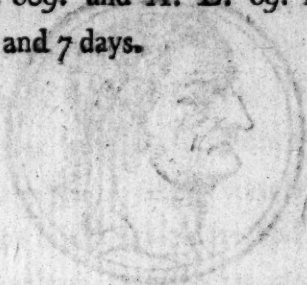
GALBA,

GALBA, VIIth EMPEROR.



GALBA, although chosen Emperor by the Roman army, soon lost it by his severity. He was no sooner arrived at Rome than he heard **VITELLIUS**, governor of Germany, was proclaimed Emperor. To prevent the possibility of **VITELLIUS** even succeeding him, he adopted **PISO** as his heir to the empire. This offending **OTHO**, his most intimate friend, the prætorian bands were raised against him. These forces pro-

claimed OTHO Emperor, and immediately defeated, dethroned, and beheaded GALBA. Having presented the head to OTHO, they next treated PISO in the same manner. GALBA was killed in the 72 year of his age, A. R. 809. and A. D. 69. having reigned only 6 months and 7 days.



●THO,

O T H O, VIIIth EMPEROR.



O T H O was distinguished for his baseness of principle and practices. To win the favor of NERO, he surrendered to him his wife. He was defeated at the battle of Bebraicum, by VITELLUS, governor of Germany. Despairing of retaining the empire, he burnt those letters which were dangerous to his friends, and immediately murdered himself, in the 38 year of his age, and the 3d month of his reign. A. R. 809, and A. D. 69. He was of low stature, crooked legged, and featured much like NERO.

VITELLIUS, IXth EMPEROR.



THE reign of this Emperor was distinguished by his squandering the money he found in the treasury, his continual drunkenness, his banishment of the soothsayers, and his retreating back to Rome when afraid to encounter VESPASIAN, who was endeavouring to rival him in the possession of the Roman Empire. Being come to Rome, he agreed to surrender the government to VESPASIAN. In this contest the capitol was entirely

entirely burnt, as it before had been in the dispute of SYLLA and MARIUS. VITELLIUS, however, had the misfortune to be taken by the captains of VESPASIAN'S army, who dragged him very ignominiously through the city, cut his throat, and cast him into the Tiber. This happened in the 57th year of his age, after he had reigned only 8 months and five days. A. R. 809. and A. D. 69.



VESPASIAN,

V E S P A S I A N, Xth E M P E R O R.



THIS Emperor was crowned after the death of Nero who sent him to conquer Judea. He subverted entirely the commonwealth of the Jews, and made Achaia, Lycia, Rhodes, Samos, Thrace, and Syria Comagene, Roman provinces. In this he was considerably assisted by the valour and abilities of his son, **TITUS**. He governed his subjects with great justice and affability. He laid the foundation of the temple
of

of Peace, and begun the noble amphitheatre which AUGUSTUS had been so desirous of erecting. In the siege of Jerusalem, which was entirely destroyed by TITUS, 1,100,000 persons is said to have perished by famine. He died in the 69th year of his age, and in the 11th year of his reign, A. R. 819. and A. D. 79. Such was his disposition to tax the people as to have caused him to levy one on urine.



TITUS,

T I T U S, XIth EMPEROR,



WAS the son of VESPASIAN, and being crowned treated his subjects with so much clemency that he was called the love and delight of mankind. He pardoned those who conspired against him. Among these was his brother; DOMITIAN, whom he not only forgave—but appointed him his successor. He never refused what was requested of him, and said that a prince should never send any of his subjects away from his presence sad

or disappointed. Recollecting one night at a feast that he had served no person that day, he exclaimed, "My friends, I have lost a day." In his reign, Vesuvius discharged ashes that were thrown as far as Africa, Syria, and Egypt; when PLINY the Elder being desirous to see this terrific spectacle, was destroyed with several cities by the flames and lava that issued from the volcano. When he was on his death bed, occasioned by poison which his brother had given him, he said he only repented of one action of his life. Not expressing what this was, some imagined it was the forgiveness of DOMITIAN, who had so ill requited his fraternal lenity and magnanimity of soul. He died in the 42d year of his age, the third of his reign. A. R. 821. and A. D. 81.

DOMITIAN,

D O M I T I A N, XIIth EMPEROR.



WAS the son of VESPASIAN, and younger brother of TITUS. He was one of the most infamous monsters that ever nature formed. He exceeded NERO in cruelty, avarice, and incontinence. He spent whole days in his closet catching and killing flies. Although he was so much addicted to pleasure and indolence, yet he triumphed thrice over the Daci and Catti. Such was his extreme vanity that he caused himself

himself to be adored as a divinity. To terrify some of the Roman nobility, he invited them to a feast, where they no sooner arrived than they found themselves in a dismal hall hung with black, and only light sufficient to perceive coffins for each of them labelled with their names. It being his custom to write down the names of those he had devoted to destruction in his table-book, and DOMITIA his wife, finding hers inserted with NORBANUS, PETRONIUS, and STEPHANUS, concerted with these persons how to save herself and them from the destruction with which they were threatened. The consequence was that DOMITIAN was stabbed by STEPHANUS in his closet, where the murderer was himself killed by the guards who came to the assistance of DOMITIAN. DOMITIAN began the Second persecution of the Christians. He is said to have banished St. John into the Isle of Patmos. But others more probably alledge this act to NERO. DOMITIAN was slain in the 44th year of his age, and the 16th of his reign. A. R. 836. and A. D. 96.

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NERVA.

NERVA, XIIth EMPEROR.

THIS Emperor could boast of nobility—but not being a Roman; for he was born at Nami a city in Umbria. He was an excellent prince, and cancelled the edicts of his predecessor. He restored all the possessions to the proprietors who had been plundered by DOMITIAN, and recalled the banished to their own country. Among these is said to have been St. JOHN, the Evangelist. Agreeable to oath, he pardoned the senators who had conspired against him, and died in the 66th year of his age of a fever caused by a violent passion, after he had reigned 1 year, 4 months, and 11 days. A. R. 838. and A. D. 98.

T R A J A N, XIVth EMPEROR,

WAS a Spaniard and adopted by NERVA. He made Dacia a Roman Province, carried the Roman Eagle

Eagle beyond the Euphrates, subdued Armenia, Mesopotamia, and Assyria; and raised the third persecution of the Christians. He was a great general, sweet tempered, merciful, and prudent. He died at Selinus, in Cilicia, in the 63d year of his age and 11th of his reign. A. R. 857. and A. D. 117.

A D R I A N, XVth EMPEROR,

SUCCEEDING to the empire, continued the Christian persecution. He was a Spaniard and adopted by TRAJAN. His most distinguished actions were the extermination of the Jewish nation, causing the memorable Piët's wall to be built in Britain, giving a king to the Germans, freeing the Armenians from the Roman power, and erecting a magnificent sepulchre to the memory of POMPEY. Being 73 years old, he died of an immoderate bleeding in the 24th year of his reign. A. R. 878. and A. D. 138.

ANTONIUS PIUS, XVth EMPEROR,

WAS a Gaul, and was surnamed **PIUS** for his virtue and clemency. He said that he would rather save one Roman citizen than kill a thousand enemies. Such was his character that the Indians and Hyrcanians chose him their arbitrator. He died in the 76th year of his age and the 23rd of his reign. A. R. 901 and A. D. 161.

MARCUS AURELIUS AND LUCIUS VERUS,

XVIIth EMPERORS.

THESE were brothers and enjoyed the empire together. By the valour of **VERUS**, the Parthians were subdued. **VERUS** having triumphed for this victory, commenced a war against the Marcomanni, and died soon after of an apoplexy. **AURELIUS** having sub-
dued

dued the Marcomanni and their allies, and marching against the Quadi, he cut all their army to pieces. Being relieved in this action from an extreme drought by the prayers of a legion composed entirely of Christians, he desisted from the persecution of their church. He died in Hungary in the 61st year of his age and the 20th of his reign, A. R. 920. and A. D. 180.

COMMODUS, XVIIIth EMPEROR,

WAS the son of AURELIUS whom he succeeded. He was equally remarkable for his vice and beauty, and is said to have ordered to be loosed upon him a hundred lions which he killed by his activity and excellence in archery. He caused his sister to be put to death as a traitor, and was himself poisoned by his concubine MARCIA, in the 31st year of his age, and the 13th of his reign. A. R. 933. and A. D. 193.

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PERTINAX,

P E R T I N A X, XIXth EMPEROR,

WAS a Ligurian, (a Genoese) of mean descent. Being reputed to the government, he at first refused the honor. Notwithstanding his character was exceedingly modest, affable, discreet, and valiant, he was assassinated by his soldiers 3 months only after he had been proclaimed Emperor. A. R. 933. and A. D. 193.

J U L I A N, XXth EMPEROR,

BOUGHT the empire of the soldiery. He was grandson to the famous lawyer of that name. Being opposed by SEVERUS who was his competitor in the purchase of Rome, he offered to resign the throne on condition that his life and liberty might be spared. He was murdered by his soldiers in the 56th of his age and the 3d month of his reign. A. R. 933. A. D. 193.
SEVERUS

 S E V E R U S, XXIInd EMPEROR,

TOOK Ctesiphon from the Parthians, subdued the province of Osroene, and began the 5th persecution. He was by birth an African. He defeated and slew his two rivals, ABINUS and NIGER, and afterwards shared the empire with his two sons, CARACALLA and GETA. He died at York in the 67th year of his age, and the 2^d of his reign. A. R. 951. A. D. 211. His character was cruelty and perfidy.

 CARACALLA AND GETA. XXIInd EMPERORS,

SUCCEDED to the Empire while they were in Britain with their father. GETA was slain in the presence of his mother, by his brother. Beside this fratricide, CARACALLA ordered two thousand persons to be executed for espousing the cause of GETA. He

is said to have married his mother and to have fancied himself a second ALEXANDER the GREAT. After a tyrannous reign of 6 years, 2 months, and 5 days, he was stabbed. A. R. 957. A. D. 217.

MACRINUS AND HIS SON. XXIII. EMPERORS.

MACRINUS was a Moor and of low birth. He was, however, Præfectus Prætoris, when he was proclaimed Emperor. Having concluded a peace with the Parthians, he divided his army into two parts which caused his ruin; for the soldiers composing one of the divisions, chose HELIOGABULUS, their Emperor, who immediately attacked the other division commanded by MACRINUS. The consequence was the defeat and slaughter of MACRINUS and his SON, DIADAMENUS in the 2d year of their reigns, A. R. 959. A. D. 219.

HELIO-

HELIOGABULUS. XXIVth EMPEROR.

THIS Emperor was the son of CARACALLA. He derived his name, from commanding that the Romans should adore the Sun only. He was a prodigy of profaneness and debauchery, and ordered his wife to beat him when she found him guilty of excesses, which order she very dutifully and religiously observed. He established a senate of women of whom he deputed his mother president. HELIOGABULUS was killed by his guards in the 23d of his age, and the 4th of his reign. A. R. 962 A. D. 229.

ALEXANDER, XXVth EMPEROR.

IS acknowledged to have been one of the greatest princes that ever distinguished themselves in either
peace

peace or war. His chief care was to administer universal justice and to banish all buffoons and sycophants from his court. He prohibited the sales of offices and is said to have secretly honoured JESUS CHRIST. Having defeated the Persians and subdued the Africans in Mauritania, he was slain by his soldiers at Mentz in the 39th of his age and the 14th of his reign, A. R. 975. A. D. 235.

MAXIMIN AND HIS SON, XXVIth EMPERORS.

MAXIMIN was the son of an obscure shepherd in Thrace. Being proclaimed Emperor by the army, to deter them from conspiracies, he caused many to be most wantonly and cruelly executed. The Senate declared him an enemy to the state. He and his Son were soon afterwards slain by their soldiers in their tents. They reigned 2 years and some months, A. R. 378. A. D. 238.

BALBINUS

BALBINUS AND PUPIENUS, XXVIIth EMPERORS.

WERE proclaimed by the senate. They reigned near ten months when they were killed by their soldiers for having conspired against **GORDIANUS**, whom they had adopted their successor as the condition of their own proclamation, A. R. 978. A. D. 238.

GORDIANUS, XXVIIIth EMPEROR,

WAS son to the Governor of Africa and came to the Empire at 17 years old. He opened the temple of **JANUS** and marched against the Persians who then threatened Italy. In this war, he retook **Carræ**, **Nisibis**, and some other Cities. He was dethroned and murdered by **PHILIP**, the Arabian, in the 21st of his age, the 4th of his reign. A. R. 982. A. D. 342.

PHILIP AND HIS SON, XXIXth EMPERORS.

PHILIP was an Arabian. Having admitted his son to the participation of the Empire, he persuaded the senate that GORDIANUS died a natural death, in order to obtain their sanction for the choice his army had made of him as their Emperor. He and his son, however, reigned only 5 years and some months, when the first was murdered in a sedition at Verona. and the latter in another which happened at Rome. A. R. 989. A. D. 249.

D E C I U S. XXXth EMPEROR,

WAS only a senator, and was chosen Emperor by those who had raised the sedition against PHILIP. He began the seventh persecution of the Christians, whom he tortured and executed with the barbarity of

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a monster. Commencing a war against the Goths, his son was slain in the battle, and himself lost in a marsh, in the 4th year of his reign. A. R. 991. A. D. 251.

GULLUS AND VOLUSIANUS, HIS SON,
XXXIst EMPERORS.

GULLUS was lieutenant to DECIUS, at whose death he was proclaimed Emperor, which he got ratified by the senate. He not only associated his son with him in the government—but adopted the son of DECIUS as his successor. Having reigned 2 years and 4 months, GULLUS and his son were both murdered by their army for cowardice. A. R. 994. A. D. 254.

ÆMILIANUS, XXXIId EMPEROR.

HE was a Moor, and being governor of Pannonia, he was proclaimed Emperor by the army who had murdered his predecessors. He was chosen because
he

he had made an inroad into the Roman territories, He, however had only reigned 3 months when he was slain by the same soldiers who had before proclaimed him. A. R. 994. A. D. 254.

VALERIANUS, XXXIII^d EMPEROR.

POSSESSED the greatest qualities as a prince altho' he was so unsuccessful a general as to loose every battle he fought. He shared the empire with his son, and raised that persecution against the Christians in which St. LAWRENCE was burnt upon a gridiron. In his reign the Roman Empire was greatly ravaged by the barbarians. Being taken by SÆPORS, king of Persia, he was made a footstool to mount his throne. He reigned 6 or 7 years and died A. R. 999. A. D. 250.

GELLIENUS, XXXIVth EMPEROR,

SON of VALERIANUS, succeeding solely to the Empire, all the governors of the Roman pro-

vinces declared themselves Emperors. This opposition to his power was quelled by the heroism of ODENATUS, king of Palmyra, who was afterwards admitted to share the government with GALLIENUS. ODENATUS and his son, HEROD, being murdered, ZENOBIA shared the government and performed the most glorious actions against the Persians, Arabians, Scythians, and Armenians. GALLIENUS being incapable of governing the people, they chose CLAUDIUS and assassinated him near Milan after he had reigned 8 years. A. R. 1008. A. D. 268.

CLAUDIUS, XXXVth EMPEROR.

HE was one of the greatest and most accomplished princes of his time. CLAUDIUS marched against an army consisting of 300,000 Goths, whom he vanquished and sunk 2000 of their ships. From this memorable action, he was surnamed GOTHICUS. Having reigned 2 years, he died of the plague. A. R. 1010. A. D. 270.

Q U I N T I L L U S XXXVIth EMPEROR.

SUCCEDED his father **CLAUDIUS** being proclaimed by the army. But 15 days after he was killed in a mutiny by the same soldiers who had before chosen him. This happened A. R. 1010. A. D. 270.

A U R E L I A N U S, XXXVIIth EMPEROR.

HE was a Pannonian of mean birth, which he ennobled by his extreme generosity. His cruelty notwithstanding considerably sullied his character. The diadem was first worn by him in Rome. He restored again the ancient discipline, expelled the invaders of the Empire, recovered Egypt and all Asia, and extended the Roman territories to their former limits. The Christians were grievously persecuted by him. Having reigned 5 years, he was assassinated at the instigation of **MNESAEUS** his freed-man and secretary. A. R. 1015. A. D. 275.

TACITUS, XXXVIIIth EMPEROR.

THIS Emperor was, after an interregnum of 8 months, elected by the senate. He was a descendant from TACITUS the historian, and was 70 years old when he came to the government. Six months after he died of a fever caused by the fatigue of prosecuting a war against the Scythians. His character was remarkably amiable and temperate. A. R. 1015. A. D. 275.

FLORIANUS, XXXIXth EMPEROR,

SUCCEEDED his brother TACITUS. But two months after he bled himself to death in consequence of perceiving that PROBUS was chosen Emperor by the greatest part of his army. A. R. 1016. A. D. 276.

PROBUS, XLth EMPEROR,

IS said to have been the son of one MAXIMILIAN, a colonel in the army. Being himself governor of

Syria he was chosen Emperor by the soldiery. He defeated the Germans and reduced the greatest part of their country to a Roman province. He constrained the Persians to sue for peace. But marching through Illyrium, he was slain at Sirmium by the foldiers in the 7th year of his reign. A. R. 1022. A. D. 282.

C A R U S, XLI. EMPEROR,

NO sooner came to the Empire than he admitted his two sons, CARINUS and NUMERIANUS to participate with him in its government. He sent CARINUS against the Franks, and went with NUMERIANUS against the Persians. Having taken Mesopotamia, and being desirous to extend his conquests beyond Ctesiphon, he was found dead in his tent after a terrible tempest. They attributed his fate to attempting what had been forbidden by the oracle, which warned the Romans not to extend their territories beyond this capital of the Persians.

NUME-

NUMERIANUS, XLIIId EMPEROR,

SUCCEEDED his father, whose decease he so lamented that the loss of tears so weakened his eye-sight as to render him incapable of bearing the light. Being obliged, consequently, to be carried in a litter, his father-in-law, APER, caused him to be murdered while he was conveyed in one on some public business. The murder being discovered by the putrid smell of the corpse, APER was instantly put to death by DIOCLESIAN, a principal officer in the army. A. R. 1022. A. D. 282.

CARINUS, XLIIIId. EMPEROR,

SUCCEEDED his brother. Being in Gaul at the time, and hearing that DIOCLESIAN was chosen by the army, he met him at *Mesia*, a province of Asia Minor. Although he vanquished his rival he was himself slain as he was pursuing the enemy, by a colo-

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nel in his own army for having dishonoured him with his wife. A. R. 1024. A. D. 284.

DIOCLESIAN AND MAXIMIAN, XLIVth EMPS.

THEY had continual wars against the Persians, and raised the tenth persecution of the Christians. A. D. 295. In this, St. JEROME asserts 5000 were slain for every day in the year, except the first of Jan. They afterwards resigned the Empire, and lived privately at Calona, after reigning 20 years. A. R. 1044. A. D. 304.

GALERIUS AND CONSTANTIUS, XLVth EMPS.

CONSTANTIUS took for his share Britain and Gaul, while GALERIUS possessed himself of the rest of the Empire. CONSTANTIUS was of a mild and merciful disposition, and GALERIUS entirely the contrary. The latter was devoured alive by worms, and died in that lamentable situation. CONSTANTI-

us died at York in the arms of his son, CONSTANTINE, in the 2d year of his reign. A. R. 1046. A. D. 306.

CONSTANTINE THE GREAT, XLVI. EMPEROR.

HE was the first Emperor of Rome who espoused and embraced Christianity. While he was saluted Emperor in Britain, he heard MAXENTIUS was chosen by the Pratorian soldiers at Rome. Being pensive upon these distractions, he cast his eyes towards Heaven and is said to have seen the form of a cross on which was written in greek. "IN THIS CONQUER." The next night our SAVIOUR appeared to him in a vision, and commanded him to bear that figure on his standard and he should conquer his enemies. This he performed, and, being victorious against MAXENTIUS, he not only favoured the Christians, but became himself a very sincere and zealous professor of their tenets. But as human happiness can never be
without

without alloy, he was rendered very unhappy by the base infidelity of his wife, **FAUSTA**, who conceived a violent passion for his son, by a former wife. The youth not listening to her entreaties fell a sacrifice to her malice, which was so great as falsely to accuse him of having assailed her virtue. The consequence was his being sentenced to die by his father and executed by his order. **CONSTANTINE** being assured soon after that his son was innocent, caused his Empress to be put to death. During his reign he enriched and adorned Constantinople, which was before called **Byzantium**, conquered the Samaritans in several parts of his Empire, and summoned the Christian bishops at Nice, a city in Bithynia, where they made **ARIUS** recant his impious doctrine, and compiled the Nicene Creed. His mother, **HELENA**, is reported to have found the real cross on which **CHRIST** actually suffered. When he died he left the Empire to be divided among his three sons, **CONSTANTINE**, **CONSTANS**, and **CONSTANTIUS**. **CONSTANTINE** was in his character modest, sincere, and valiant. He died A. R. 1077. A. D. 337.

THE

THE seat of the Roman Empire being, thus, transferred to Constantinople, and the Emperors becoming chiefly Christians, it was afterwards governed by a succession of Emperors consisting of fifteen in number, until AUGUSTULUS its last Emperor, was conquered by ODOACER, king of the Heruli and Turingians. A. D. 473. From this period Italy was successively governed by the Goths, Lombards, French, Italians, and Germans, when it became divided into the following petty states :

The Kingdoms of Naples, Sicily, and Sardinia.

— Land, or Matrimony of the Church.

— Dukedoms of Urbin and Tuscany.

— Commonwealths of Venice, Genoa, and Lucca.

— Estates of Lombardy, which were divided into the dukedoms of Milan, Mantua, Modena, Parma, and Montferrat, and the Principality of Piedmont.

ANNEXED is a short explanation of the Roman Currency ; specifying the value in English Sterling.

THEIR money was brass without any impression,

until *SERVIVS TULLIVS* stamped the *æs* with the image of small cattle. It had afterwards the beak of a ship on one side and *JANVS* on the reverse. The eight brass coins were as follow :

1. *Æs* which was equal to a halfpenny farthing.
2. *Semis*, equal in value to a farthing and a half.
3. *Triens*, was only in value a farthing.
4. *Quadrans*, equal to half a farthing and a quarter.
5. *Sextans*, equal to half a farthing.
6. *Unica*, equal to quarter of a farthing.
7. *Semuncia*, equal to the eighth part of a farthing.
8. *Sextula*, equal to the 24th part of a farthing.

THE silver coin consisted of a *Denrius*, equal to seven-pence halfpenny; *Quinari* half the value; *Sestertius*, quarter the value, *Obolus* 6th of the value; *Labella* equal to the *Æs*; *Sembella* 20th of a *Denrius*; and *Teruncius* which was equal to a *Quadrans*. Beside these they had sums by which they estimated their property. These consisted of the *Sestertium*, value 7l. 16s. 3d. *Libra*, or *Pondo*, 3l. *Talentum*, 117l. 10s. and *Sportula*, 1s. 6d. 3 farthings.

T H E E N D.